



KLIUC RESEARCH E-ABSTRACT 2011

FOR KNOWLEDGE FOR HUMANITY

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Message from Director of RMC

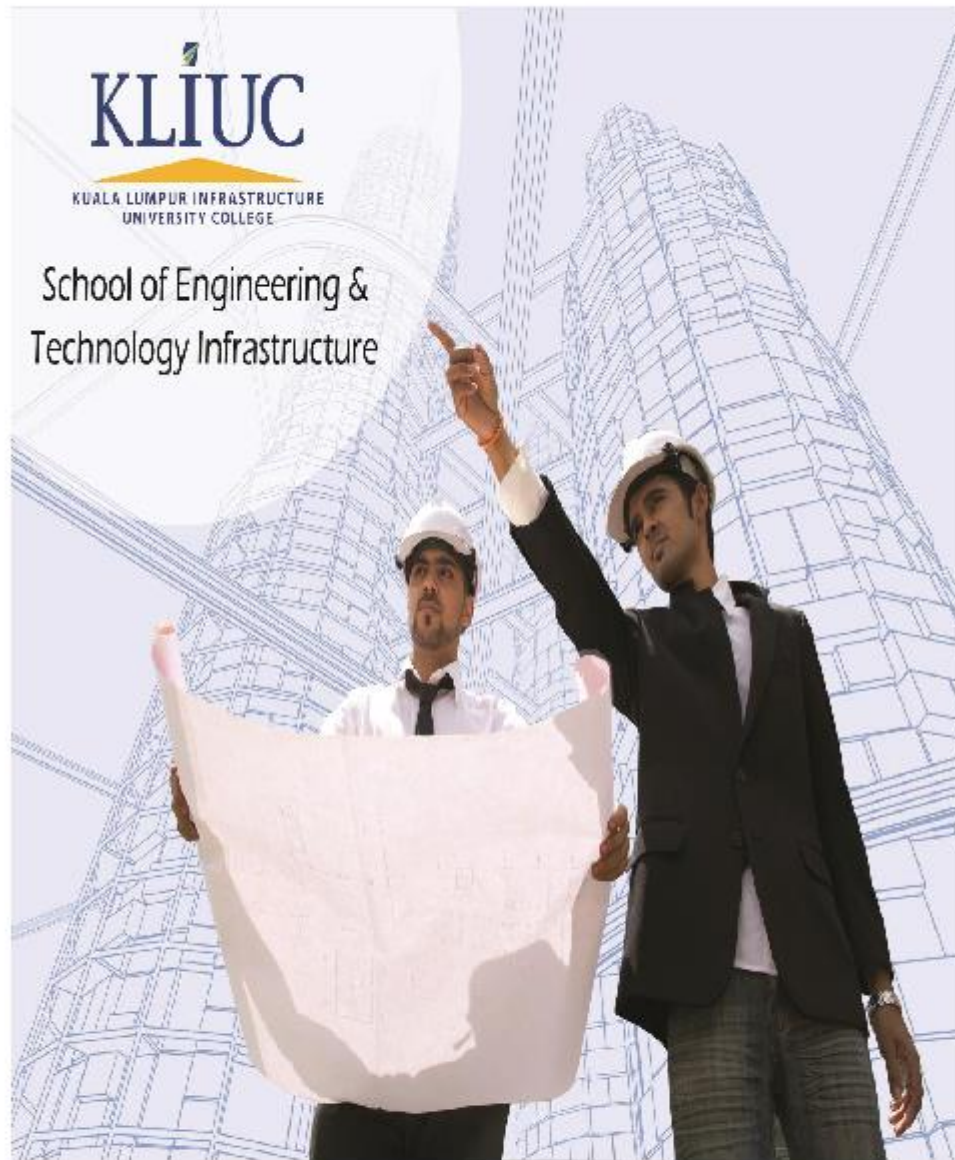


This is significantly an excellent effort by the Research Management Centre (RMC) KLIUC to compile abstracts produced by the academic staff. The collection includes papers that were presented or published from the year 2005 to 2011. It is hoped that these valuable abstracts information would benefit the government and private sectors, scientific communities, planners, decision makers, engineers, developers, contractors, and the public at large. It is also aimed at promoting the RMC, KLIUC to the national and international arena. Apart from that, it will act as a platform to commercialize the centre's intellectual assets to the marketers of engineering and non-engineering background.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the KLIUC top management and all academic staff from all Schools for the overwhelming cooperation, commitment and contribution in bringing an enormous success to the centre. I look forward to further collaborate in order to bring research to a greater height.

Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin
Director
Research Management Centre (RMC)
Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE



1. Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin and Mohd Shafee Harun (2011). Rainfall Erosivity Evaluation At Malaysia Highland Areas. 16th Mancid Annual Conference. 26-27 February 2011, Vistana Hotel, Penang

ABSTRACT

Soil erosion is one of the natural processes that occur on earth. It affects nature by creating sediment which pollutes rivers and dams. Besides nourishing the soil, its most hazardous impact is that it can induce a landslide. The change of soil surface due to landslide delays development planning, loss of properties and lives and cost millions of dollars to the government. Malaysia faces the problem of landslide due to its geographical location in the area of destruction which recorded an average annual rainfall exceeding 2,000mm. By quantifying the degree of rainfall erosiveness with regards to the past and present landslide occurrence in the country, one can predetermine or establish an annual rainfall erosivity calendar that can triggers landslide. Based on the rainfall parameters measured on landslide events namely rainfall amount, duration, intensity, energy and erosivity. The level of landslide risk in relation to rainfall erosivity known as 'ROSE' Index such as low, moderate, high, very high and critical for all the highland areas can be made known. It is identified that the most frequent critical rainfall erosivity event occurs in the month of November and October. This valuable data and information can be considered as a tool to the public and local authorities that gives an early warning information at all sensitive sloping areas besides taking early preventive measures by the authorities at the highland areas in Malaysia namely Genting Highland, Cameron Highlands, Bukit Bendera, Fraser Hill, Bukit Tinggi, Gunung Jerai, Maxwell Hill, Gunung Pulai and Gunung Raya.

2. Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin (2011). Meeting The Demands Of The National Agenda. 8th Technical and Vocational Education Training Conference. 19-20 April 2011, Istana Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

ABSTRACT

Under the Tenth Malaysia plan, 12 National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs) has been identified as a Catalysts to bring significant economic activities and upgrading the nation's wealth being. As the vision 2020 is to be achieved in the near decade. Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) must be given

an enormous weightage four strategies will be adopted to improve the quality of the TVET sector namely improving the perception on TVET, making TVET teaching an attractive career option, upgrading and harmonizing the TVET curriculum quality and streamlining the delivery of TVET. The Nation's aim to achieve high income, sustainability, inclusiveness and quality of life under the New Economic Model (NEM) is dependent on skilled workers. To meet the target of 33% workforce in the highly skilled category by 2015 and 50% by 2020, the country is under immense pressure to overcome skill issues.

3. Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin (2011). Forecasting Erosion Induced Landslide. Workshop On "Landslide Disaster-Assesment & Management".

ABSTRACT

Soil erosion is globally recognized as a serious threat to the human well being. The basic definition of the word 'Soil Erosion' commonly the destruction of soil by the dual action of water and wind. It is essentially a smoothing process with soil particles being carried, rolled or washed down by the gravitational force. Erosion induced landslide is fundamentally a continuous process caused by two prominent means of disturbance either geologically or accelerated that affects the geotechnical strata and the surface of the earth. The severity or impact on the soil strata depends significantly on the rainfall intensity, energy and magnitude of the rainfall erosiveness which scour away, loosen and breakdown the soil particles and carry them away besides the degree of soil erodibility itself. A combination of these two main factors namely rainfall erosivity and soil erodibility can be used as a predictive tool in forecasting erosion induced landslide. By knowing the level of rainfall erosivity and soil erodibility impact of an area, the potential risk of erosion induced landslide can be determined. In Malaysia, erosion induced landslide poses enormous threats and over the past years as well as in the present scenario have caused severe damages. Apart from claiming lives of the humanity, it destroys residential and commercial properties, arrests development in urban and rural areas and impairs water quality of rivers and streams. The problem of erosion induced landslide is not unique as it occurs in most countries throughout the world. From the engineering perspective, soil erosion includes the process of detachment of soil particles from the soil mass as a function of rainfall erosivity. When raindrops

fall on the bare surface of a slope, it would result in the slope to be eroded and exhibiting erosion features of sheet, rill or gully. With increasing external stimulus of intense rainfall, this would gradually cause slope failure or landslide as commonly being known. Slope failure due to soil erosion phenomenon that leads to landslide occurrences had entirely been referred under the standard classification system of shallow translational type of movement of debris slides and flows.

Identification of potential erosion locations is substantially crucial as it would lead to the determination of landslide prone areas. At present, there are about 46 number of major landslides event in Malaysia since 1993 that have been identified as erosion induced landslide areas claiming more than 150 lives. Malaysia faces the problem of landslide mainly due to its geographical location in the area of destruction which recorded an average annual rainfall of 2500mm. The need to take appropriate mitigating measures against erosion is essential in planning new development projects. As erosion induced landslide constitute a major socio-economic problem, information on erosion risk locations would supplement a reliable landslide hazard map in the country. This in many ways would reduce the number and impact of landslide occurrence, thus mitigating economic and social losses.

4. Ajao Hazzan A, and Anwar Hassan Ibrahim (2010). Advance Wire Bondwidth Control For Ic Design. Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College, School of Engineering and Technology Infrastructure Unipark Suria, Jalan IKRAM - UNITEN, 43000 Kajang, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

ABSTRACT

As a result of the enormous growth and increasing demand for electronics equipments in telecommunication industries, Yield loss has become very important issue of concern. Wire bond rejects poses significant problems in IC fabrication process since a single wire if not properly connects can render the whole device (IC) useless. To handle various problems related to yield loss, by method emphasis is on wire bond. A sensor is applied to the bonding machine which uses optica spot light to locate the bonding positions. Hardware & software for the monitoring of the measured values have been developed. The electrical signals are recorded and interpreted in real-time using a PC

compatible PCD-3T (Siemens) computer. The experiments result analyzed the data collected with statistical analysis method.

Keyword: Integrated circuit (IC), Yield loss, wire bondwidth and PCD-3T

5. Anwar Hassan Ibrahim (2010). An Analytical Study Of W-Cdma System Using Ovsf Code Comparing With Pn Code Via Awgn. Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College. Department of Electrical and electronic Engineering, Kumpulan Ikram Bangi.

ABSTRACT

The code is one of the most explored methods to improve CDMA performance and capacity of the system. Code tree allocated scheme are originally proposed as the channelization codes in the W-CDMA scheme. It presents variable data rates to flexibly support application. Any two of OVFS codes are orthogonal if one of them is not a parent code to the other. This work mainly make use of the OVFS codes' tree allocation schemes, in comparison to Pseudo-Noise Sequences (PN) codes under Additive White Gaussian Noise (AWGN) link conditions, which were carried out via theoretical analyses and computer simulation using MATLAB functions. The simulation model is developed to include transmitter, channel and receiver. It was found that the W-CDMA system is less effective by the noise using OVFS code compared with PN code, as 31.25 % and 37.25% respectively.

Key words: W-CDMA, OVFS code, PN code, AWGN, RN, bit Error probability (BEP).

6. Faris G. & Alias A. (2010). A Study on the Water Quality of Gombak River Using Artificial Neural Network Approach. Al-Risala Academic Journal Issue no. 8. ISSN 1675-3593.

ABSTRACT

Due to heterogeneous nature of river's water, methods of prediction of water quality, patterns and trends of changes suffer to define an accurate forecast. The aim of this study is to enables forecasting, and prediction of water quality parameters with conjunction to land use attributes and to find a low-end alternative for water quality monitoring techniques, which are typically expensive and tedious. It also aims to ensure sustainable development, which is essentially has effects on water

quality. The motivation of this study is to allow decision makers to plan safely to improve quality of life while maintaining sustainable development. The research approach followed in this study is via using artificial neural networks, and geographical information system to provide a reliable prediction model. The proposed approach minimized most of anomalies associated with prediction methods and provided water quality forecasting and prediction with precision.

Keywords : Water Quality, Land use, Artificial Neural Network.

7. Azma Fatini Abdul Aziz. Proceeding Of Seminar On Applied Mechanic 1st Meeting. Miros-UPM (2009). Paper Title: Large Deformation Of Hollow Circular Tubes Under Compression.

ABSTRACT

Circular tubes due to ease in manufacturing and prevalent occurrence are commonly used in structures as impact energy absorbers through different deformation modes such as lateral compression, lateral indentation, axial crushing, tube splitting and tube inversion that result in different energy absorption responses. This paper is to review those analytical models that are currently available to predict the energy absorption characteristics of circular tubes under impact loading.

8. Khairul Salleh bin Baharudin, Ahmad Noor bin Yusoff and Rosnani bt. Hj. Ahmad. (2009). Study of Modified Wood for Structural Composite by Using The Heat Treatment Method. Proceedings: *International Conference on Building Science and Engineering*. 14 – 15 December 2009.

ABSTRACT

Manufacturers of wood products are facing greater challenges as the available resources are declining in size and quality while the demand for higher quality of structural wood products increases. Structural composite lumber can meet these challenges with the recent developments in wood modifications. Environmental awareness, increasing demand for constant high quality of tropical hardwood species together with the increasing prices and their availability have led to the introduction of various wood modification techniques for structural composite. This paper presents a study on the properties of modified wood for structural composite

using Malaysian rubberwood via the heat treatment method. Equilibrium moisture content, dimensional stability, surface wettability and mechanical properties of the modified rubberwood were compared with natural rubberwood. Results indicated that the properties of modified rubberwood have improved. Modified rubberwood has lower equilibrium moisture content and surface wettability, and has higher dimensional stability and durability. The process of modified wood for structural composite via heat treatment method is suitable for use to improve the rubberwood's properties. This may lead to a better development of wood products in the construction field and the environment.

9. Khairul Salleh bin Baharudin, Noorhazlinda binti Abdul Rahman, S. Amutha, and Wee Ching Leong (2008). The Change of Lateral Deflection Due to Wind Load Action on Tall Concrete Building for Different Types of Structural Systems. Proceedings: *International Conference On Infrastructure Development (INCID 2008)*, Putrajaya, Malaysia. 7 May 2008.

ABSTRACT

The development of tall building today has already existed since 1880s. Tall building is a relative and subjective matter which cannot be defined related just to the height or number of storey. Tall building is a building in which tallness strongly influenced planning, design and usage than those that exist in common building of a certain region and period. Tall building is subjected to axial loading by gravity and to transverse loading by wind or earthquake where these actions are important factors in the design process. This article mainly deals with models analysis of tall concrete building with different types of structural systems by using STAAD Pro application. The objective of the analysis is to study the behaviour of tall building in terms of three different parameters; (i) the change of deflection with height; (ii) the change of deflection with lateral stiffness and (iii) the relationship of deflection with aspect ratio. The results of these parameters are shown graphically. In the first parameter, the results showed the deflected profile of tall building for the particular structural systems. The change of maximum deflection with height and its respective inter-storey drift is also examined since it will affect the appearance and limit the use of the structure. Whilst the second and the third parameter, the relationships of lateral deflection

with lateral stiffness, and the relationship of lateral deflection with aspect ratio are investigated.

10. Khairul Salleh bin Baharudin, Noorhazlinda binti Abdul Rahman, S. Amutha, and B. Thayalan (2008). The Recognition of Corrosion Zone and Presence of Chlorides Ions in Reinforced Concrete Structures. *Proceedings: International Conference On Infrastructure Development (INCID 2008)*, Putrajaya, Malaysia. 7 May 2008.

ABSTRACT

The principle cause of degradation of steel reinforced structures is corrosion damage to the rebar embedded in the concrete. The most common causes of reinforcement corrosion are when chloride ions reach the steel reinforcement and break down the protective oxide layer on the steel. Thus, a lot of money being spent on rehabilitation of concrete structures i.e. bridges, marine structures etc. in realizing, the maintenance cost exceeds the initial cost of these reinforced concrete structures themselves. Hence this project is trying to recognise the corrosion zone and to analyse the presence of chlorides ions. The case study will be focused in Lumut, Peak Darul Ridzuan, which is about failure in jetty due to chloride attack. In line with this case study, laboratory tests were conducted using small reinforced concrete specimen exposed to three zones, which are atmospheric, tidal and submerged zone. The standard experimental methods were employed in this study as well as actual condition performance to investigate the reason for such damage in steel reinforcement. Based on the results, it can be observed that tidal zone in the experiment have significant effect on corrosion and the range of chloride content was found in tidal zone is very higher than the other zone.

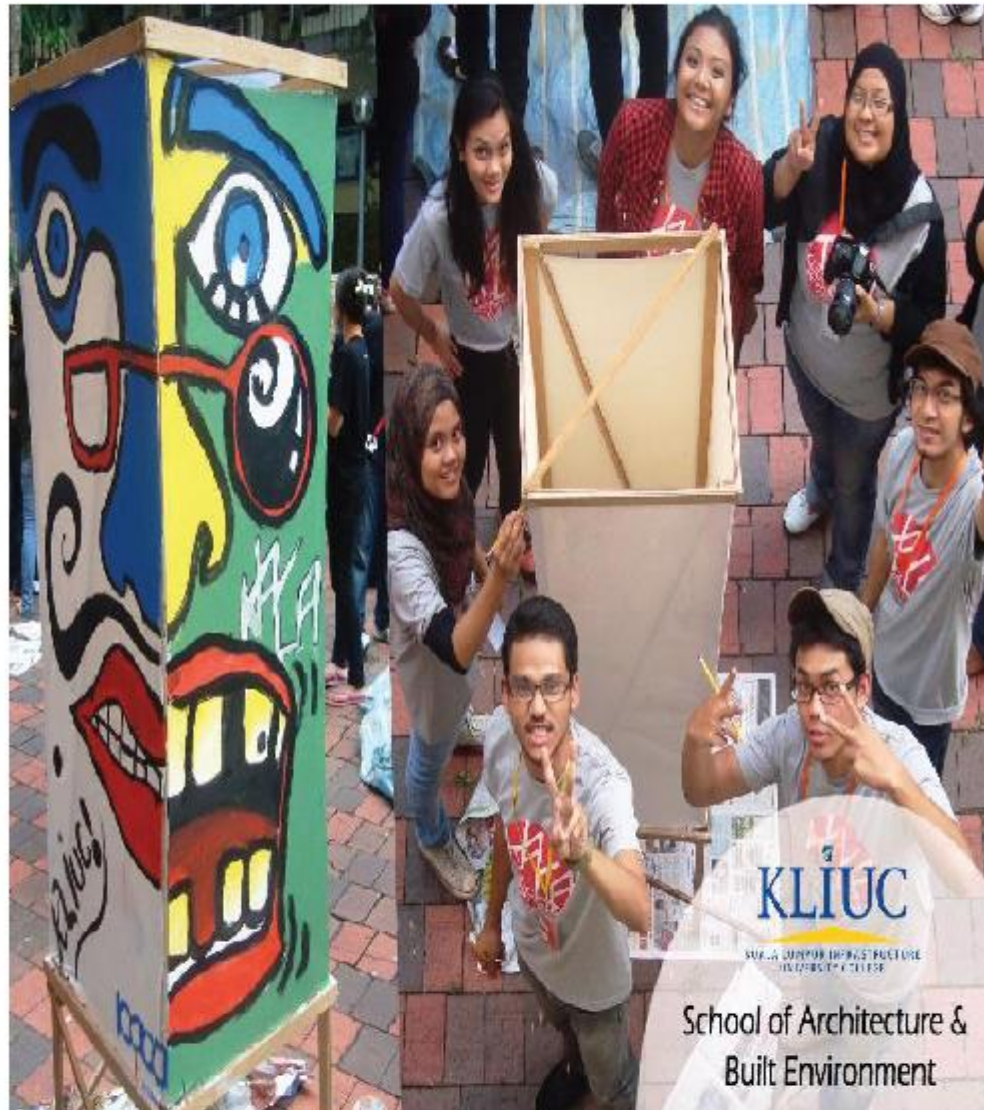
11. A.K. Yap, S.H. Tang 2, N. Ismail (2008). Early Cost Estimation For Injection Mold Based On Geometrical Complexity Of Plastic Part.

ABSTRACT

This paper presents the development of a mathematical model at the early stages of plastic injection mold tooling design based on the analysis of historical mold designs and cost data from a local custom injection moldmaker. A statistical linear regression analysis is used for developing the mold cost formula. The tested molding parts are selected from the mold type of two-plate cold runner system and also from a variety of part sizes and complexity designs. The mold cost formula was derived from the part's envelope volume, number of part dimensions, number of part actuators and part's dimension tolerance as the mold cost independent variables. The strength of the relationships between the mold cost and its independent variables were investigated through the statistical regression analysis. The results of analysis indicated that the number of part dimensions has the highest significant correlation with the mold cost, followed by the part's envelope volume and then the number of part actuators, while the variable of dimension tolerance did not show a significant correlation to the mold cost.

Keywords: early cost estimation, plastic injection mold, mold cost, regression analysis.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT



1. N.K.F. Mustafa, S. Johar, A.G. Ahmad, S.H. Zulkarnain, M.Y. A. Rahman, A.I. Che Ani (2011). "Conservation and Repair Works for Traditional Timber Mosque in Malaysia: A Review on Techniques". World Academy of Science Engineering and Technology (WASET 2011), International Conference on Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation (ICURPT) 2011. 24-26 June, Paris, France. ISSN 2010-376X, ISSN 2010-3778. pp. 862-867

ABSTRACT

Building life cycle will never be excused from the existence of defects and deterioration. They are common problems in building, existed in newly build or in aged building. Buildings constructed from wood are indeed affected by its agent and serious defects and damages can reduce values to a building. In repair works, it is important to identify the causes and repair techniques that best suites with the condition. This paper reviews the conservation of traditional timber mosque in Malaysia comprises the concept, principles and approaches of mosque conservation in general. As in conservation practice, wood in historic building can be conserved by using various restoration and conservation techniques which this can be grouped as Fully and Partial Replacement, Mechanical Reinforcement, Consolidation by Impregnation and Reinforcement, Removing Paint and also Preservation of Wood and Control Insect Invasion, as to prolong and extended the function of a timber in a building. It resulted that the common techniques adopted in timber mosque conservation are from the conventional ways and the understanding of the repair technique requires the use of only preserve wood to prevent the future immature defects.

Keywords—Building conservation, conservation principles, repair works, traditional timber mosque.

2. S.H. Zulkarnain, E.M.A. Zawawi, M.Y. A. Rahman N.K.F. Mustafa (2011). "A Review of Critical Success Factor in Building Maintenance Management Practice for University Sector". World Academy of Science Engineering and Technology (WASET 2011), International Conference on Urban, Regional Planning and Transportation (ICURPT) 2011. 24-26 June, Paris, France. ISSN 2010-376X, ISSN 2010-3778. pp. 195-199

ABSTRACT

Building maintenance plays an important role among other activities in building operation. Building defect and damages are part of the building maintenance 'bread and butter' as their input indicated in the building inspection is very much justified, particularly as to determine the building performance. There will be no escape route or short cut from building maintenance work. This study attempts to identify a competitive performance that translates the Critical Success Factor achievements and satisfactorily meet the university's expectation. The quality and efficiency of maintenance management operation of building depends, to some extent, on the building condition information, the expectation from the university sector and the works carried out for each maintenance activity. This paper reviews the critical success factor in building maintenance management practice for university sectors from four (4) perspectives which include (1) customer (2) internal processes (3) financial and (4) learning and growth perspective. The enhancement of these perspectives is capable to reach the maintenance management goal for a better living environment in university campus.

Keywords— Building maintenance, Critical Success Factor, Management, University.

3. M.Z. Abd Razak, N.K.F. Mustafa, A.I. Che Ani, N.A.G. Abdullah & M.F.I. Mohd Nor (2011). "Campus Sustainability: Student's perception on Campus Physical Development Planning in Malaysia". The 2nd International Building Control Conference (IBCC) 2011. 11-12 July, Penang, Malaysia

ABSTRACT

Campus physical development plan is an effective tool to shaping campuses' life, especially among students to promote a sustainable living community. The purpose of this study is to asses and evaluates student's perception about the physical development planning of their campuses. The case study conducted in four public research university campuses. The quantitative and qualitative methods have been use in this study. Quantitative method involved data collection by using questionnaire distributed to 100 students for each

campus. While the qualitative methods involved behavioural observation and visual study. The findings from qualitative methods clarified the quantitative data. The overall findings revealed that all campuses had a similar typical problem. However, there are differences about the extent or severity of the problems in each campus. The result shows that the most compact campus (USM) among these campuses, have a minimal problems in term of physical development planning that affect student's life compared to others campuses.

Keywords: Sustainable campus; physical development; planning; case study; Malaysia.

4. N.K.F. Mustafa, A. Alias, N.A. Ismail, A.I. Che-Ani (2010). "Building Condition Survey and Assessment Report: The Use and Benefits in Sub-sale Housing Property Valuation". The 8th International Conference on Construction and Real Estate Management (ICCREM) 2010. 1-3 Dec. Brisbane, Australia: Queensland University of Technology. ISBN 9787112126125. pp. 403-407

ABSTRACT

The levels of defects and deteriorations in a building are the great influence to indicate the building performance instead of the services systems provided. The interaction for both people and surroundings towards the life cycle of a building gives impact on the property values. Dealing with the sub-sale housing properties, it require for Valuers expertise, experience and knowledge in property valuation in which the fourteen procedures of conducting inspection and referencing of the property were highlighted in Malaysian Valuation Standard. It is understand that the scope of inspection is limited for the purpose of valuation only. Due to integration of skill and knowledge, the condition survey and assessment of building is foreseeable to help the Valuers in preparing an accurate valuation for sub-sale houses. Questionnaire survey forms were distributed among Valuers from various public and private sectors to discover the professional perspective on this approach. The paper is of value in assessing the use and benefits of Building Condition Survey and Assessment (BCSA) report in sub-sale housing property valuation and showing that it can be used to estimate the potential value of the respective property. The main finding shows that while the Valuers acknowledge the importance of having BCSA, it is not really put into practice in conducting the sub-sale housing property valuation.

Key words: Building assessment, Building surveying, Condition Survey, Inspection and Sub-sale housing

5. N.K.F. Mustafa, J.A. Tasirin, S.H. Zulkarnain, A.I. Che-Ani (2010). "Knowledge Sharing in Conducting Building Condition Survey and Assessment for Sub-sale Housing Properties". The 17th Annual Conference of the European Real Estate Society (ERES) 2010. 23-26 June, Università Bocconi, Milan, Italy

ABSTRACT

Building performance will be broadly affected with the levels of defects and deteriorations. As the life cycle of a building requires for more interaction between people and surroundings, the impact towards property value is very much affected. With regards to the inspection conducted by the valuers, the scope of inspection is limited for the purpose of valuation only. By using the building surveying knowledge, the importance of a Building Condition Survey and Assessment (BCSA) is anticipated to provide an accuracy of valuation for sub-sale houses. In relation to undertake a precise assessment on the property, the building inspection report should include enough information which indicate the significant level of building defects whereby the causes of defects, state of repair including the remedial works and cost are technically predicted. Therefore, this study attempts to elicit the valuers perception on the BCSA approach particularly for sub-sale housing market as a value added in representing the building depreciation cost. In line with the input of BCSA by the building surveyor to the valuers, both professions can work together in assisting the buyers to purchase the sub sale housing type.

Keywords: Condition Survey, Assessment, Sub-sale Housing Properties, Building Inspection, Valuers,

6. Ranjit Singh (2010). "Current Technology In Geomatic Engineering". *Ikrum Quarterly: Journal for Engineering & Technology*. Volume 1, January 2010. pp. 19-23.

ABSTRACT

Geomatic Engineering has many applications in data capturing technology such as Terrestrial Surveying using Total Station, Satellite Surveying, Aerial Mapping, Close-range Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. The captured data can be in 2-D (x and y) or 3-D (x, y and z)

information. The data will then be post-processed to produce a plan. One of the current technology that is available for data capturing is the Terrestrial Laser Scanning (TLS). During its introduction, TLS have been widely used for the scanning of pipelines at the oil and gas platforms. Currently TLS have been used for the following applications such as as-built measurement of structures, heritage buildings conservation, slopes measurement, road accident mapping, forensic mapping, etc.. The advantage of TLS is that it can produce a 3-D as-built survey at a very short duration compared to conventional surveying using Total Station and Close-range Photogrammetry. This paper will focus on the application of TLS in producing a 3-D as-built of a four storey academic block in KLIUC.

7. Sr Nur Khairul Faizah Mustafa, Siti Hafsa Zulkarnain, Prof Mohd Yumus A Rahman (2009). "Comparative Study On Refurbishment Project Process Of Government And Non Government Organisation In Malaysia". 16th Annual Conference of the European Real Estate Society (ERES) 2009. 24-27 June, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden

ABSTRACT

The refurbishment project escalates as a sustainable building commodity that can be obtained to a marketable price and accordingly the reasons for the decision to initiate a refurbishment project are seen as a basis of demand. Refurbishment project becomes financially interesting wherein it increases the performance and value of the property. Early refurbishment or a short refurbishment cycle indicates that the built environment does not offer expected satisfaction to many building owners. Thus, refurbishment provides competition to all pleasure generating commodities. The reuse or recycle of building stock for refurbishment purposes is largely required as to make use and improve the existing resources. Lack of control by the Local Authorities has resulted to unknown statistical data in refurbishment project. Enhancing the building refurbishment into a wider approach provide a well organized control and planning of refurbishment work. This study was aimed in providing a better understanding on the refurbishment project's process implemented in the Malaysian's construction industry. The results and findings of this study was concluded from an interview which was conducted to identify the current practice of the government and non government organization in dealing with the process of

refurbishment project. This study argued that the current practice may be less effective in carrying the refurbishment process. It was compared with Standard Refurbishment Practice (SPR), a model practiced in United Kingdom. It also highlighted the problem related to the refurbishment process conducted throughout the case study which was further analysed from the organizations. This study concluded with the recommendation on the proposed Refurbishment Process Standard in fulfilling the requirement for all.

Keywords: Local Authority, NonGovernment Organisation, Old Building, Refurbishment, Refurbishment Process.

8. Sr Nur Khairul Faizah Mustafa, Sr Siti Nur Aliaa Roslan, Hanah Zakariah, N.M. Tawil, Hashim A.E (2009). "Sustainable Building Through Refurbishment: A Case Study Of The KL Central Market". Journal of Design + Built. Vol 2/2009. ISSN: 1985-6881. pp.52-61.

ABSTRACT

A sustainable building commodity and stock obtained a reusable item of our current property supply chain. It becomes as a source of demand to improve the existing building performance for our future needs. The instant perception will further increase the building appearance and overall performance relatively with the value of the property. This proactive action may change the mind set in improving the architectural merit of the existing building for giving a new life and new look for the building. A study of Central Market building will be a lesson learnt on how to suit with the sustainable building environment starting from its first refurbishment work. Enhancing the building refurbishment into a wider approach provide a well organized control and planning of refurbishment work for Central Market building. The results and findings of this study were concluded from an interview which was conducted to identify the suitability of the reusable building for a continuous operational. It also highlighted the four elements in assessing the defect due to the new works operated and ended with conclusion towards a sustainable building orientation for better outlook.

Keywords: sustainable, building, commodity, stock, reusable and refurbishment.

9. Ranjit Singh, Abd Razak & Razak Wong (2009). "As-built Survey of Civil Structures using Terrestrial Laser Scanning". *8th International Symposium and Exhibition on Geoinformation (ISG 2009)*, Crowne Plaza Mutiara Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. 10-11 August 2009.

ABSTRACT

Terrestrial Laser Scanning (TLS) is a new technology in this country. During its introduction, TLS have been widely used for the scanning of pipelines at the oil and gas platforms. Currently TLS have been used for the following applications such as as-built measurement of structures, heritage buildings conservation, slopes measurement, road accident mapping, forensic mapping, etc.. The advantage of TLS is that it can produce a 3-D as-built survey at a very short duration compared to conventional surveying using Total Station and Close-range Photogrammetry. In this study the scanning were done on a four storey academic block in KLIUC. The scanning were done outside and inside (ground floor and first floor) the block. The TLS equipment used for the scan is Leica HDS6000 phase measurement. The scanning were completed in just two days with a total of about ninety scans. The accuracy of the TLS as-built data will be analyzed against the conventional survey using Total Station. The TLS as-built data can be published to the World Wide Web for public viewing. The TLS as-built data can also be modelled and animated for presentation purposes. The findings from this study shows that the TLS as-built survey of the civil structure is accurate and can be accepted.

Keywords: Terrestrial Laser Scanning; As-built survey; Animation; Modelling

10. Normaliza Abd Rahim, Noraien Mansor, Nik Rafidah Nik Affendi, Arbaie Sujud, Siti Nur Aliaa Roslan, Norzita Yumus and Yazariah Jacob (2009). Storyboard Writing and Adult Learners: A Pragmatic Approach. *Journal of the World Universities Forum*, Volume 2, Issue 3, pp.1-10

ABSTRACT

A storyboard is essentially a timeline going from top to bottom, with the top occurring first. It is an expression of everything or even a rough sketch that will be contained in the program telling where the menu screens in a computer interface will look like, what pictures either

still or moving will be seen when and for how long, what audio and text will accompany the images, either synchronously or hyperlinked or in other words allows us to see what the scene will look like. Typically, storyboards may be written documents and off-the-shelf storyboard pads for TV and video formats, adaptable for multimedia. The storyboard expresses, in one way or another, everything that can be seen or heard or experienced by the end-user of the multimedia program. It is more than a test-of-concept model, and just short of the final product specification document. Therefore, this paper investigates the content of discussion during storyboard writing and to investigate the meaning of the discussion. Five pairs of subjects were involved in this study. A task was given to each pair and the length of time for them to discuss about the layout and the content of the storyboard was 3 hours for each pair. The discussion will be taped and analyzed accordingly. The subjects were adult learners involved in a Language and Multimedia course ages between 33- 40 years old, six female and four male. The subjects had no experience in storyboard writing. This paper uses the relevance theory (Sperber & Wilson 1985), an inferential approach to pragmatics.

Keywords: Storyboard Writing, Pragmatic Approach, Adult Learners

11. Ahmad Abdullah, Sr Nur Khairul Faizah Mustafa, Nurul Huda Abdul Hadi (2008). "The Development Of Integrated Public Transportation System In Klang Valley". *1st International Conference On Infrastructure Development (InCID) 2008*. 7-9 May, Marriott Hotel, Putrajaya.

ABSTRACT

Rapid population growth and urbanization in Klang Valley and adjoining vicinity has brought about pressure on the existing public transport system. There is a demand to increase the mobility through the provision of an integrated public transport system. Identification of integrated key measures and basic principles of public transport system act as a benchmark in providing an absolute service. Considering the key measures for integrated public transport in Klang Valley, this study highlighted the existing scenarios, which somehow need further improvement towards a better implementation. City Hall Kuala Lumpur has aligned and revised a comprehensive approach to upgrade and improvise a systematic integrated public transport system in Klang Valley. This study was aimed in providing a better

understanding of integrated public transportation system, which fulfils the requirement and give benefit among all.
Keywords: Integrated, Public Transport, Key measures, Klang Valley

12. Ranjit Singh, Saiful Adli & Mahadzer Mahmud (2008). "Development of Ikram Park Information Map (IPIM) using GIS Application". 7th International Symposium and Exhibition on Geoinformation (ISG 2008), Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur. 13-15 October 2008.

ABSTRACT

Geographical Information System or GIS is a powerful tool in the management of data and information for any particular application in the infrastructure areas. Since GIS application is capable of storing both spatial and attribute data in digitized form, the editing and updating process can be quickly and easily performed. The system also provides better presentation and display of data to satisfy the need of users. Mapping is one of the applications that can be developed using GIS. The development of Ikram Park Information Map or IPIM in short, required a few GIS application. ArcCATALOG are used to set up the spatial and attributes data for the GIS. While ArcMAP software are used to digitize the spatial data and combined with the attributes data thus creating the information map. Lastly, ArcEXPLORER was used to upload the map to the internet where the users can access the map.

13. Basharudin A. Hadi, Kay Dora Abd Ghani, Mohammad Hazizi bin Jamal, Siti Fatimah bt Sadikon, Badrul Nizam bin Ismail, Norshafa Elyza bt Muha, Mukhlis Nordin, Kamaruzana W. Jusoh & Ranjit Singh (2008). "Application GPS Handheld in the Development of UiTM Contrator's using GIS". 7th International Symposium and Exhibition on Geoinformation (ISG 2008), Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur. 13-15 October 2008.

ABSTRACT

In civil engineering maintenance work have a work classified as emergency work. These classifications of emergency works are pipe burst, electrical shutdown, flash flood, fire hazard and unexpected outsider visitor (VIP). The specific contractor should be called during emergency works for repairing and maintain the system. When emergency call needed no intelligent system provided to solve this task quickly. So in the awareness due to the main problem stated above the researcher proposed the research entitle: "The Development of UiTM Contractors Attribute Using GIS". Out of one from three objectives in this research is to capture the Global Positioning System coordinate of contractor office. This process for purpose of to register the contractor attribute in Geographical Information System Software. The research, in early stage of methodology is to carry out the survey of coordinate x and y for contractor address in all over the Perlis State using GPS Handheld, 6 to 10 meters accuracy. GPS is one a good gadget to capture the data in x and y direction because it fast, easy, handy and no need well trained manpower to use. The researcher recommended the GPS type in accuracy less than 1meter can give precise location of contractor address.

14. Basharudin A. Hadi, Ahmad Kamal, Sabri L. Din, Juwita, Kamaruzaman W. Jusoh, Mukhlis Nordin, M Sufian Jusoh, Helmi Shafri, Amran, Ahmad Rodzi & Ranjit Singh (2008). "Capturing Rock Signal Spectra using Spectrometer". 7th International Symposium and Exhibition on Geoinformation (ISG 2008), Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur. 13-15 October 2008.

ABSTRACT

The spectral signature in software is not declare by software developer on how they capturing the signal. Moreover the end users don't know either the signal capturing from field or images. The confusing comes across in the mind, how the original spectra signature from field is? So, to capturing the original signal this research was carried out. Types of rock and sand are very important for engineers to design the foundation. The types of rock give different signature pattern. The objective of this research is to capture digital signature for classification types of rock. The research methodology is to capture the how much reflectance

from sun was reflect back by rock in controlled laboratory. In conclusion, the experiment was carried out in controlled laboratory can reduce the spectral from unwanted noise (e.g. scattering). Secondly, the real spectrometer signal of rock was successfully captured.

15. Basharudin A. Hadi, Amir Khomeni, Badrul Ismail, S. Fatimah, Ismail Atan, Nor Aminin Khalid, Helmi Shafri, Amran, Ahmad Rodzi, Nish fariza & Ranjit Singh (2008). "Spectroscopy Analysis of Rocks – Denoising Rock Spectral using Wavelet". 7th International Symposium and Exhibition on Geoinformation (ISG 2008), Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur. 13-15 October 2008.

ABSTRACT

The digital spectral signatures embedded in satellite images have carry meaningful information. This type of remote sensing image provided many information properties and very much helping the land surveyor to identify the land boundary or spatial territory. The spectral vegetation was very successfully classified (Jansen, 2000). For civil engineers they are more interested in using the spectral from spectrometer in identifying the quality and type of civil engineering material (e.g.rock, soil, wood etc.). The data from field have many noise due exposed direct to sunlight (A. Hadi & H. Shafri, 2005). The main objectives of this research are to investigate the best wavelet in denoising data from noisy data from spectrometer and to test the capability of wavelet and MAPE (statistic formulae) in ranking the best wavelet. The spectral was obtained from measurement in field and expose to noise from sun reflectance. Then the digital spectral was uploading to laptop and filtered by denosing the signal processing according to type of wavelet. The signal was converted to digital numbers. In Excel software, the digital data was ranked by using MAPE formulae. In conclusion the signal processing used wavelet shows a huge potential tool in filtering of spectral digital data. Secondly, the MAPE is very useful to ranking the data after filtered by wavelet. In recommendation the researcher suggested for raw data collection using spectrometer can be carried out in control lab to avoid too much noise from sun illumination.

16. Ranjit Singh, Hon Kah Wye, Ahmad Rodzi & Basharudin (2006). "Application of Pulse Laser Total Station for Structure Measurement".

International Conference in the Built Environment in the 21st Century (ICiBE2006). 13-15 June 2006. Renaissance Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. pp 857-866.

ABSTRACT

Most civil structures in this country are design and build with a high aesthetic quality. The most noticeable structures are the Petronas Twin Towers, bridges at Putrajaya, Penang Bridge and Telekom Tower, just to name a few. As-built measurement of such structures are normally done in case a new structure needs to be attached and construct to it, or a plan need to be drawn and archived to preserve it's architecture value. The measurement sometimes requires indirect measurement that is with limited direct contact to the structure itself. One method that can be applied for such purpose is the use of Pulse Laser Total Station. This method of measurement has been applied to a roof top structure of a shopping complex which is adjacent to a hotel at Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur. The roof top have a high aesthetic quality. The problem faced is that it was difficult to have a direct contact with the structure due to high risk involved during the measurement. The only solution in obtaining the measurement of the roof top is by using the Pulse Laser Total Station. This paper will reveal the potential of a Pulse Laser Total Station for structure measurement. The limitation of the method will also be discussed. The results obtained from the measurement can be considered as successful. The accuracy of the measurement that managed to be achieved is in ten millimeter range. The final as-built drawing which is produced in 3-D format will also be presented.

Keywords: Pulse Laser, Total Station, Structure Measurement, Indirect Measurement

17. Ranjit Singh, Ahmad Rodzi & Basharudin (2006). "As-built Survey of Civil Structures using Reflectorless Measurement". *International Symposium & Exhibition on Geoinformation 2006 (ISG06)*, 19-21 September 2006, Sheraton Subang Hotel & Towers, Selangor.

ABSTRACT

Most civil structures in this country are design and build with a high aesthetic quality. The most noticeable structures are the Petronas Twin Towers, bridges at Putrajaya, Penang Bridge and Telekom Tower, just to name a few. As-built measurement of such structures are

normally done in case a new structure needs to be attached and construct to it, or a plan need to be drawn and archived to preserve it's architecture value. The measurement sometimes requires indirect measurement that is with limited direct contact to the structure itself. One method that can be applied for such purpose is the use of Reflectorless Total Station. This method of measurement has been applied to a roof top structure of a shopping complex which is adjacent to a hotel at Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur. The roof top have a high aesthetic quality. The problem faced is that it was difficult to have a direct contact with the structure due to high risk involved during the measurement. The only solution in obtaining the measurement of the roof top is

by using the Reflectorless Total Station. This paper will reveal the potential of a Reflectorless Total Station for structure measurement. The limitation of the method will also be discussed. The results obtained from the measurement can be considered as successful. The accuracy of the measurement that managed to be achieved is in ten millimeter range. The final as-built drawing which is produced in 3-D format will also be presented.

Keywords: Reflectorless, Total Station, Structure Measurement, Indirect Measurement

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE STUDIES



1. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2011). Stakeholders' roles in ensuring employability of graduates. Forum panellist on Educational Transformation is the Core towards Human Capital Development at the International Conference on Teaching and Learning in Education on 20-22 June 2011 at College of Information Technology (COIT), Universiti Tenaga Nasional.

ABSTRACT

This discussion focussed and highlighted the need for the inclusion of industry players as an important addition to the traditional list of stakeholders in the field of education which includes parents, students, management, policy makers and teachers. Each stakeholder's desires, challenges, feedback and input are considered as crucial factors to work towards a favourable rate of employability of our graduates. The link with the industry enables institutions to meet market requirements and allows for the designing of market-driven programmes that support strategic human capital development. At the same time, institutions should also work towards nurturing graduates who are flexible to put theory into practice in a creative and innovative manner at various levels in their future careers. This flexibility allows for graduates to take on a wide range of jobs which go beyond the limitations of their area of content knowledge.

2. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2011). The First Year of College: Supporting Student Transition into Higher Education. Workshop conducted during the International Conference on Teaching and Learning in Education on 20-22 June 2011 at College of Information Technology (COIT), Universiti Tenaga Nasional.

ABSTRACT

The focus of this workshop was to identify ways of managing and guiding the first year students to experience a 'rich' and memorable year on campus. The desires and challenges of students and lecturers teaching on the first year programmes were identified as factors that affect the life on campus of a first year undergraduate. Interviews were carried out to gather views from lecturers and students and the comparison showed that a mismatch of these factors can lead to a

confusing state which can adversely affect students' academic success, retention of existing students, increase intake of new students, image of institution and the quality of students who graduate from the institution. Suggestions for a concerted effort to support both lecturers and students were highlighted.

3. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2011). PIO Literature: Fiction and Non-fiction -Looking for a Malaysian Dream. GOPIO International Academic Forum II- Indian Diaspora: Emergence and Road Map at Indian Studies Department, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, University Malaya. 2 April 2011.

ABSTRACT

This paper highlights the need for a focal point for the Indian Diaspora in Malaysia to be able to move forward with a collective dream of making it a success in this land called home. Tracing the evidence of the American Dream in various literary works that had assisted in collectively moving the society to believe in a bright future for them and work toward their freedom and the right to live a just lifestyle. The issues in the fiction and non-fiction works by Indians writing in English still evolved around post-colonial and diasporic concerns. The paper advocates a move away from such issues and to make a forceful effort to create a dream or vision for the community to focus on. Literary works are seen as a powerful channel to propagate this dream to ensure that the ideals set are slowly but surely infused into the community as a whole and as well as in the hearts of every Indian in Malaysia.

4. Siti Maziha Mustapha & Nik Suryani Nik Abd Rahman (2011) Classroom Participation Patterns: A case study of Malaysian Undergraduate Students. A EDUCARE:International Journal for Educational Studies, 3(2) 2011(pp.145-158)

ABSTRACT

This study aims to document undergraduate students' patterns of participation in Malaysian classrooms. Interviews and observations were carried out. 85 students from two communication classes were observed over the period of two semesters (28 weeks). Most of the participants fell between the age of 18-19 years old (65.8%) and 66.7% of the participants were female while

33.3% were male. 24 students from the two classes were interviewed. Four basic patterns of participation emerged from the data; active participation, selective participation, minimal participation and passive participation. It was also found that students' individual participation pattern could be influenced a myriad of factors, thus making their participation patterns flexible. This research demonstrated that the participatory roles students took in class could move along the participation continuum; from the most active to the least active. Recommendations are offered to promote students' participation in the context of higher learning.

5. Noryati Alias & Siti Maziha Mustapha (2011) "Implementation of Strategic Management in Selected schools in Wilayah Persekutuan." 1st International Conference on Teaching and Learning Education 2011, UNITEN. June 20 – June 22, 2011.

ABSTRACT

The research is an exploratory study on the implementation of strategic management, in particular on strategic planning and its impact on management performance in some selected government secondary schools in Wilayah Persekutuan, Malaysia. It investigated to what extent strategic management was practiced and how it was perceived by the school administrators in Wilayah Persekutuan. A survey involving one-hundred fifty six school administrators in twenty-six secondary schools in Wilayah Persekutuan was carried out. The main findings of the research revealed that secondary schools in Wilayah Persekutuan practiced strategic planning that was largely characterized by: all schools did have a mission statement as a guide for future directions; most school administrators engaged in a formal aspect of strategic planning where agreed plans were written down and referred to during implementation; strategic planning in schools did not seem to be on an ad-hoc basis; strategic planning was given proper attention in the planning process in spite of little knowledge in strategic planning; school administrators in Wilayah Persekutuan did require training in strategic planning; scheduled and regular meetings were organized to implement strategic planning; school administrators perceived strategic planning as a very useful guide for the school though it created too much paperwork; and record keeping of agreed plans was the most typical feature of strategic planning as implemented in schools. Recommendations

were offered to enhance the implementation of strategic planning in schools.

6. Dr Karthiyaini & Ms Kanthimathi.L. (2010). A comparative study: Verbal versus printed Guiding Grid. International Education Seminar, Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius. 29 November 2010

ABSTRACT

Assessment is a crucial part of education as it provides information to be used as feedback to support the teaching and learning process. Oral assessment is conducted at both primary and secondary schools in Malaysia. Previous researches highlight that students are unable to score well in their oral assessment. Therefore, the aim of this study is to examine the effectiveness of sharing assessment criteria, the Guiding Grid (GG), with students to improve oral performance among them. This study was conducted with Form Four students from an urban school. The students' oral assessments were conducted three times and their scores were recorded. The first assessment was done without sharing the GG with the students. Before the second assessment the researchers shared the GG verbally. Finally, 12 students who scored below the satisfactory level were given the printed GG and were assessed for the third time. The findings show a marked improvement in students' oral performance after the sharing of GG, orally as well as in print form. There is a significant improvement on the 12 selected students' oral performance when the printed GG was shared with them. This study also explores students' opinions on sharing the GG with them.

7. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2010). An action research: Experience in an undergraduate English Language class of multicultural students. International Education Seminar, Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius. 29 November 2010.

ABSTRACT

This study was carried out in a class of undergraduate students to experiment the use of action research to improve teacher and student performance. In an English Language class of Malaysian and mainland Chinese students, the main issue was that the mainland Chinese students as compared to the Malaysian students were reluctant to speak up due to various reasons such as culture, lack of language proficiency, shyness and attitude. The multicultural and multi-language setting of

this class was also a challenge. There was a need to motivate these students to shed their inhibitions to be able to speak up and also improve their performance. Various strategies to generate discussions among themselves to improve speaking skills were introduced and their performance after each strategy was documented. The most effective strategy to encourage students to speak without inhibitions was the dramatisation of the text discussed in class. The use of an 'alien culture' literary text that is unique and non-discriminatory to all in a multicultural class encourages participation from all students.

8. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2010). A Talk on essay writing for Admission to Ivy League/Top universities. Talk for 1st year students at Universiti Tenaga Nasional. 22 Oct 2010.

ABSTRACT

It is a challenge to gain admission into the Ivy League universities as the competition is extremely keen. Many applicants are able to show academic performance that is on par with others. The one single factor that can make or break your success of admission is your personal statement or essay. There is a need to show the deciding committee how your essay stands out in the 'crowd' of essays submitted for gaining entry into the Ivy League universities. This is the essay that will reveal the 'real' you, who you are and how you think. Thus, during this talk, students were introduced to Victor Shklovsky's theory of defamiliarisation as expounded in "Art as Technique" to enhance their skill of seeing something 'special' in their mundane surroundings and to be able to document it in a unique, interesting and persuasive manner. This ability to be sensitive to one's surrounding in a meaningful way enhances the ability to be the one above the rest. Students had the chance to capture their personal experiences in a compelling personal statement during this session which took on an interactive mode with intermittent sharing moments.

9. Harold Poong Wan Hing, Assoc. Prof. Christianine Della and Suraya Amirrudin (2010) Creating Advertisements To Teach Verbal And Nonverbal Communication. 18th MELTA International Conference, Aligning Teaching and Learning: Effective Methodologies in English Language Education (11-13 June 2009).

ABSTRACT

This workshop explores the creation of advertisements by students to teach verbal and nonverbal communication. Nonverbal communication consists of that part of a message that is not encoded in words. The nonverbal part of the message tends to be unconscious and often reveals the sender's feelings and preferences more spontaneously and honestly than the verbal parts. If the verbal message does not match the non-verbal communication, people tend to believe the nonverbal message. Participants are exposed to sensitivities and the nuances of nonverbal communication when conveying their message across to the target audience. The proposed communication activity in this study requires creative and critical thinking skills, as well as communicative skills. Participants will participate in simulations of classroom activities which have been successfully used in a Public Speaking and Technical and Professional Communication class. The language teaching aims and objectives will be clearly laid out for participants. For this workshop questionnaires were administered to the students to gather their feedback of the activity.

10. Siti Maziha Mustapha, Nik Suryani Nik Abd Rahman, Melor Mohd Yunus.(2010) Understanding Classroom Interaction: A case study of International Students' Classroom Participation at one of the colleges in Malaysia. Journal for the Advancement of Science & Arts (IJASA) Vol 1 (#2).

ABSTRACT

Active classroom participation is important in promoting affective learning (Kember & Gow, 1994; Billson, 1986; Raw & Heyl, 1990). Through active engagement in classroom, students learn to think critically and enhance their intellectual development. This study focuses on classroom participation of international students (adults and young adults from abroad who study in Malaysian private educational institutions). It investigates factors that encourage or discourage participation using observations and interviews. Students were asked to respond to questions on the lecturer traits that shape their participation and other factors that encouraged or discouraged their classroom participation. The results strongly endorse that lecturers play a great role in promoting student participation. The factors that are most effective in promoting international students'

participation and their patterns of participation in class are also discussed. Suggestions are offered to lecturers in formulating future teaching strategies for international students.

11. Siti Maziha Mustapha, Nik Suryani Nik Abd Rahman, Melor Mohd Yunus. (2010) Factors Influencing Classroom Participation: A case study of Malaysian Undergraduate Students. Sciencedirect. Available online at www. Sciencedirect.com

ABSTRACT

Despite the importance often assigned to participation in classroom, it has been repeatedly reported that most students remain passive in class. This study aims to document influencing factors that shape undergraduate students' participation in Malaysian classrooms. Interviews and observations were carried out. 85 students from two communication classes were observed over the period of two semesters (28 weeks). Most of the participants fell between the age of 18-19 years old (65.8%) and 66.7% of the participants were female while 33.3% were male. 25 students from the two classes were interviewed. The results strongly endorse that lecturer traits and classmate traits play significant roles in promoting student participation. Recommendations are offered to educators in formulating future teaching strategies that promote students' participation in the context of higher learning.

12. Siti Maziha Mustapha, Nik Suryani Nik Abd Rahman, Melor Mohd Yunus. (2010). Perceptions towards Classroom Participation: A case study of Malaysian Undergraduate Students. *Procedia Social and Behavioral Sciences* 7(C) Pp.113-121 Available online at www. Sciencedirect.com.

ABSTRACT

Research questions focused around discovering students' perception of classroom participation and how their perceptions impact their actual participation. This study aims to document perceptions that shape undergraduate students' participation in Malaysian classrooms. Interviews and observations were carried out. 85 students from two communication classes were observed over the period of two semesters (28 weeks). Most of the participants fell between the ages of 18-19 years old (65.8%) and 66.7% of the participants were female while

33.3% were male. 25 students from the two classes were interviewed. Participants' actual classroom participation and their perceptions were compared and contrasted for a better understanding. Results show that the multitude of views that students have on classroom participation signifies the unseen complex direct or indirect influence that impact their classroom participation patterns. Recommendations are offered to educators in formulating future teaching strategies that recognize students' unique characteristics and promote open, supportive environment to allow students to participate vocally or in alternative ways.

13. Christianine Della. The Current Evolving Phase of Education. 29 November 2010 International Education Seminar: Sharing Best Practices. Subramania Bharati Lecture Theatre, MGI, Mauritius

ABSTRACT

Universities currently have become a mixture of academic institutions, enterprises and centres of community services. The range of operations and activities carried out has diversified to become a strategic reference for national growth and development. Education for the twenty first century and beyond must be socially relevant. The task of institutions of higher learning is not merely to produce skilled manpower but more importantly able to manage change as well as to direct change. There is a paradigm shift in education. Institutions of higher learning are faced with myriad responsibilities such as to provide quality education, conduct research, and be economically viable and sustainable as well as to establish industrial linkages or collaborations. The traditional role of institutions of higher learning as custodians of knowledge or transmitters of received wisdom is no longer tenable in the present day. In the light of these challenges, institutions of higher learning need to reinvent themselves in order to be relevant.

14. Harold Poong Wan Hing and Assoc. Prof. Christianine Della.(2010) Interference of L1 in L2 Writing Skills among Chinese Speaking Learners . Proceedings: 19th MELTA International Conference (17-18 June 2010)

ABSTRACT

A significant number of studies have been conducted with reference to the interference of L1 in L2 writing skills (Wang, 2002; Yin, 2009; Zhao, 2004; Shen, 2009 & Wang, 2009). This study aims to identify and describe the similarities and differences in the use of linguistic features based on writings produced in an academic writing class by 10 Chinese speaking learners from China and 10 Chinese speaking learners of Chinese Vernacular Schools in Malaysia who are currently pursuing different bachelor programmes at Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College (KLIUC). Li (2010) has particularly looked at linguistic transfer as one of the interferences of L1 in L2 acquisition among Chinese speaking English as additional language (EAL) learners. Class writing assignments and a quiz were used as the data of this study. These are analysed at the word and sentence level to identify the interference of L1 in their L2 writing. This study also has pedagogical implications in providing information for those who teach Chinese speaking learners in order for them to understand and anticipate some of the linguistic variations that may arise in the writings of students and how to address these issues.

15. Siti Maziha Mustapha (2009) "University Students Perceptions On Classroom Participation". Presented at International Conference on Teaching and Learning in November 2009 at Kuala Lumpur

ABSTRACT

Research on classroom interaction has proven that through active involvement in classroom activities, students learn to think critically and enhance their intellectual development. Classroom discussion is one of the most frequently embraced pedagogical strategies in enhancing participation quality. However, there is concern that regardless of lecturers' effort to encourage student participation, there are many students who are silent or unwilling to actively engage in classroom discussion. This study examined the factors that encouraged the quality and quantity of university students' participation in classroom discussion. Students were asked to respond to a questionnaire where they were required to identify the factors they perceived to enhance the quality and quantity of their participation in classroom discussion. The results derived from the content analysis, strongly endorse that a positive and supportive classroom climate, graded participation and

active facilitation were three of the most influential factors in promoting classroom participation. Responses made by the students could be utilized by the lecturers to formulate future teaching strategies.

16. Nik Mohamad Zaki Nik Salleh & Siti Maziha Mustapha (2009) "Impact Of Stress Factors On University Students' Academic Performance: Evidence From Accounting Students Of Private Universities In Malaysia". Presented at International Conference on Teaching and Learning in November 2009 at Kuala Lumpur

ABSTRACT

Accounting students in universities face all kinds of pressures to maintain optimal performance in a stressful academic environment. Stress can have an impact on their ability to complete their degree and graduate. A significant number of university students fail to get an acceptable level of academic achievement which causes withdrawal or dismissal (Pascarella & Terenzini, 1991). Different stressors such as time management, financial problems, sleep deprivation, social activities can all pose their own threat to a student's academic performance. The purpose of this study is to detect if there is a correlation between the stress that students perceive that they are under, and their Grade Point Average (GPA). Perceived stress was measured using the Perceived Stress Scale, developed by Cohen and Mermeistein in 1983 and GPA by the grades obtained in that semester. The students were also asked to rank in order of importance a list of possible stress factors. We hypothesize that there would be a negative correlation between the amount of stress perceived by the students and the students' GPA. Therefore, a higher score on the Perceived Stress Scale resulting in a higher level of stress, the correlated GPA should be lower during that specific semester. The study showed that some of possible sources of stress contributed more to students' perceived stress. The implication of the findings is to offer better information to educators and administrators on how stress manifests itself on university students and its effect on students' academic performance. Programs aimed at helping students to reduce their level of stress will help reduce academic failures or withdrawals.

17. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2009). Developing and Assessing Generic Skills by lecturers in the PISMP Programme. Presented at the Research Seminar 2009, IPGM-KPI, Bangi. (Pending

publication in the IPG-IPI Journal, 2010/11). 14th July 2009.

ABSTRACT

This study on the development and assessment of generic skills by Institut Perguruan Islam Selangor (IPIS) lecturers teaching the PISMP Programme (Program Ijazah Sajana Muda Perguruan) investigates and explores how teacher trainers develop and assess generic skills among their trainees. This study was carried out using a combination of qualitative and non-experimental quantitative approaches using structured interview schedules and survey questionnaires respectively. The survey questionnaires were piloted on 30 randomly selected PISMP Semester 1 and 4 trainees and then the questionnaires were administered to all the PISMP trainees in Semester 1 and 4. A total of 14 trainees from the 5 options of this Programme were randomly selected for interview and 10 lecturers teaching the Compulsory Courses on the same programme were also interviewed. The findings of this study reveal the Teacher Trainers' past experiences with the concept of generic skills and their views on which of these skills are most important to Teacher Trainees. This study also highlights how Teacher Trainers develop and assess generic skills in this Programme (PPISM). Finally, the Teacher Trainers also suggested better ways to facilitate and develop generic skills among Teacher Trainees. A better understanding, development and assessment of generic skills will enhance the quality of teachers trained and this will eventually improve the quality of the teaching and learning process in the classrooms.

18. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2009). Maximizing Life on Campus with English. A motivation Talk at the ELSP 2, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia. 6-9 December 2009

ABSTRACT

Students on the undergraduate programme were given a talk on how to use the English Language as a tool to maximise the excitement of life on campus. Ideas on using the language as a gateway to travel the world carrying the university flag was shared among the students. Tips on utilizing and managing time on campus effectively to improve academic performance were given as a possibility within the reach of each student. Students were motivated to take advantage of the possibility to visit different parts of the world as a

student ambassador for the university. This talk session was carried out in an interactive mode where students were able to share their ideas with fellow peers.

19. Dr Karthiyaini Devarajoo (2009). "Transforming Diaspora: Familiarity with Alien Terrains". *The Indian Diaspora – Historical and Contemporary Context* (2009). Chapter 6. Edited by Laxmi Narayan Kadekar, Ajaya Kumar Sahoo & Gauri Bhattacharya. Jaipur, India: Rawat Publications. December 2009

ABSTRACT

This paper explores the transformation of the Indian diaspora in the literary works in English by Malaysian authors of Indian origin. The familiarity of the later generations of the Indian Diaspora in Malaysia to other diasporic and minority communities globally is also examined. This study involved the novels of three different authors spanning a period of twelve years. A timeline charts the changes observed in the writings of the same author as well as the transformations observed between different generations of writers over the years. Being diasporic is seen as a temporary transitional phase in an individual or community. Thus, members of a diasporic community are not diasporic generation after generation. However, there seems to be a familiarity to the diasporic elements or characteristics through the generations and this feature enable its members to be able to not only sympathise but to also empathise with other minority and diasporic communities around the world.

20. J. A. Polko (2009). "The form of the author in a model of reading of administrative forms". Paper presented at International Conference on Social Sciences and Humanities (ICOSH), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi, Selangor, 2-3 December 2009.

ABSTRACT

Literary theories have been fruitfully applied to texts which are in no sense "literary". One kind of non-literary text which has not received much attention is the administrative form, or business form. A consideration of administrative forms shows that they pose significant challenges to the simple (and admittedly already much contested) tripartite model of reading: AUTHOR → TEXT → READER. In this paper, an

expanded model is introduced. Attention is then focused on the AUTHOR element, and it is argued that the author of an administrative form is better conceptualized, not as an individual writing subject, but as individually anonymous corporate body.

21. Assoc. Prof. Christianine Della, Prof. Dato Wira Ir. Mohamad Noor b. Hj. Salleh (2009). Synergising Private and Public Institutions of Higher Learning for Greater Efficiency. International Conference on Improving Higher Educational Institutions: Empowering Future Generations, 25 - 26 Feb. 2009. Best Western Premier Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, 2009.

ABSTRACT

Higher education in Malaysia is delivered through both public and private education systems under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Higher Education. Much of the higher education is undertaken by the public institutions, but the private education sector has developed so much in recent years that it almost delivers fifty percent of higher education in the country, thus becoming equal partners in the provision of quality education. It has become imperative that public and private institutions of higher learning establish links and synergise so as to gain from or take the best of both worlds. Both public and private institutions have much to offer each other. Some of the areas in which both can synergise are engaging in collaborative research, sharing of facilities and knowledge, organising conferences or seminars, industrial placement as well as sharing of teaching expertise.

The Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College is one of the premier private institutions of higher education whose forte is in the field of engineering. It has much to offer in terms of expertise and knowledge through its Centre of Research and Development, provision of training through its Training Division and industrial placement in the various companies under the flagship of Protasco Sendirian Berhad, the parent company. The Ikram Training and Infrastructure Development Institute (ITiDi) provides a one-stop centre for total training solutions in both technical and non-technical courses.

This paper shall discuss in depth the positive and vibrant effects of establishing links between public and private institutions so as to provide wholesome education to the public. In keeping with the objectives of the Conference, this paper shall make reference to concrete examples

where Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College can help to contribute towards synergising universities. Synergising public and private institutions can contribute to greater efficiency, and sharing of a wealth of knowledge and expertise.

22. Harold Poong, Assoc. Prof. Christianine Della, Suraya Amirudin (2009). Creating Advertisements To Learn About Verbal and Nonverbal Communication. 18th MELTA International Conference, Aligning Teaching and Learning: Effective Methodologies in English Language Education (11-13 June 2009).

ABSTRACT

This workshop explores the creation of advertisements by participants to learn about the importance of verbal and nonverbal communication. Non-verbal communication consists of that part of a message that is not encoded in words. The non-verbal part of the message tends to be unconscious and often reveals the sender's feelings and preferences more spontaneously and honestly than the verbal part. If the verbal message does not match the non-verbal communication, people tend to believe the nonverbal message. Participants will be exposed to sensitivities and the nuances of nonverbal communication when conveying their message across to their target audience. The proposed communicative activity in this workshop requires creative and critical thinking skills. Participants will participate in simulations of classroom activities which have been successfully used in the Public Speaking as well as in the Technical and Professional Communication classes at Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College (KLIUC). The language teaching aims and objectives will be clearly laid out for the participants.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE



1. Tengku Akbar Bin Tengku Abdullah and Mohammed NaimChaker (2011), Competency Skills in Accounting: Perceptions of Kazakhstan Institute of Management Economics and Strategic Research (KIMEP), Kazakhstan Accounting Graduates, J. Global Business Advancement, Vol. 4 (2) (Forthcoming).

ABSTRACT

As accounting education has been criticised for not training accountants to meet the changing demands of the globalised markets, this paper is to assess the sufficiency of the proficiencies and skills and values taught to accounting students at Kazakhstan Institute of Management Economics and Strategic Research (KIMEP). In this paper, we report the findings of the study on communication skills, information development and distribution skills, decision-making skills, knowledge of financial accounting, knowledge of management accounting, knowledge of auditing, knowledge of taxation, knowledge of business environment, professional ethics, professionalism and leadership development. Generally, KIMEP accounting graduates are equipped with competency skills. However, there are certain skills that need to be further enhanced in the area of accountancy. The findings and the conclusions in this paper could provide empirical evidence and the input for evaluating the content of accounting programme to develop the required competency skills required for accountants.

2. Goi, M. T. (2011). Brand Identity of Higher Educational Institutions, International Conference on Economics, Business and Marketing Management, IEDRG, Shanghai China, 11-13 Mar. ISBN978-1-4244-9545-0

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to identify the dimension of brand identity in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). This study gathered data from 371 students from public and private HEIs in Malaysia. Confirmatory Factor Analysis was conducted to test the brand identity dimensionality. Brand identity was found consists of visual and verbal identity. Visual identity consists of service facilities, employee service, product, price, culture, employee development, and process. Verbal identity consists of channel, word-of-mouth, public relation, and promotion.

3. Goi, C. L. and Goi, M. T. (2011). Review on Models and Reasons of Rebranding, International Conference on Social Science and Humanity, International Economics Development and Research Center, Singapore, 26-28 Feb. ISBN: 978-1-4244-9374-6

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this paper are to review the current rebranding concepts and rebranding models, as well as the main reasons of the marketer goes for rebranding. Earlier studies of rebranding phenomenon investigated the effect of rebranding toward the performance of the corporation [10, 12]. Boyle [16], Causon [8], Daly and Moloney [3], Kaikati [14], Lomax et al. [15], Muzellec et al. [2], and Stuart and Muzellec [9] discussed in depth the reasons behind the rebranding practice and process based on specific organisation experiences. Melewar et al.'s [13] study focused on the process of rebranding and the impact of rebranding toward preferences of the new image, and sales and share price. Another study by Muzellec and Lambkin [7] on rebranding phenomenon was developed to investigate the impact of rebranding on brand equity. Kaikati and Kaikati [17] has also highlighted strategic options for implementing a rebranding campaign. This paper also highlighted 3 models related to rebranding: A Model of the Rebranding Process [9], Integrating Conceptual Model of the Rebranding Process [15], and Evolving Conceptualisation of Brand Evolution [18]. Number of literatures (examples [7], [8], [9], [11], [15], [16], [17], [19], [20], [21]) have been identified related to the reasons for rebranding.

4. Goi M. T. and Aliah Hanim M. Salleh (2011). Impact of Brand Meaning on Brand Equity of Higher Educational Institutions in Malaysia, Asia Pacific Business Research Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 21-22 Feb. ISBN : 978-0-9804557-5-5

ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of brand meaning on brand equity of higher education institutions ("HEI's") and compares the influence of brand meaning on brand equity between public and private HEI's. This study used a questionnaire survey sampled from 371 students of public and private HEI's in Malaysia who went through a re-branding exercise. T-test, multiple regressions and structural equation modelling are conducted to test the hypotheses and model. The results

provide empirical evidence to verify the findings of past qualitative studies, thus proving that the stronger the degree of brand meaning of HEI's, the higher their brand equity. It is concluded that the inherent results of the impact of brand meaning on brand equity in HEIs, do provide strong signals for recognising the differences between public HEI and private HEI service branding in Malaysia.

5. Dr. Seloamoney Palaniandy (2010). "Teachers or Cheaters?" – Ethical Dimensions of Teacher Professionalism and the Need for Teacher Reflection. International Education Seminar: Mahatma Ghandi Institute, Mauritius : Sharing Best Practices. 29th November 2010.

ABSTRACT

This study is about how student perceptions of teacher behaviour influence their own behaviour and what implications follow for behavioural management in Malaysian secondary schools. The purpose was to provide empirical evidence as to why teachers need to reflect upon their own behaviour and professional practices. A quantitative questionnaire was administered to 120 students from four secondary schools in the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. Semi structured and open interviews were used with a sub sample of 32 students (8 from each school) selected on the basis of survey responses which explored the relationships further. Data was analysed with SPSS. Exploratory factor analysis was used to identify the underlying domains. Secondly stepwise logistic regression analysis was used to explore the combined and separate effects of teacher characteristics on student behaviour. Findings revealed that a considerable number of students disliked their teachers and subjects taught at their schools. The P values for most of the perceived teacher characteristics were significant ($P < 0.05$). Data from both surveys and interviews were further analysed in the context of typology. The data compared teachers' professionalism with reference to their pedagogical, ethical, interpersonal and disciplining styles. Students' negative perceptions of some teachers were found to be correlated with student's self reported behaviour. It was concluded that student perceptions of teacher characteristics may contribute to student disciplinary problems and hence this has implications for behavioural management in schools.

6. Kamaljeet Kaur & Jaspal Singh (2010) "Sustainability of Corporations Through Leadership and Human Governance". Presented at International Conference on Sustainability of Business 10th & 11th November 2010, Pullman, Putrajaya.

ABSTRACT

Sustainability is fundamental in ensuring corporations existence. A coherent plan of sustainability should include good leadership in crisis management planning and inculcation of the elements of human behaviour. Good human behaviour can be achieved through ethically governed actions, where individuals have an acceptable moral reasoning ability. These ethical behaviours are also known as human governance which will in turn promote good corporate governance to prevent fraud and which in turn will strive for sustainability, referred as going concern in accounting. This conceptual paper will discuss about the problems faced by corporations in being sustainable. The focus will be on the leadership qualities shown by management through good crisis management plan and human governance. Good corporate governance can only happen if there is good human governance where ethics has to be inculcated in employees at all levels to minimize frauds from occurring. The efforts that the Malaysian government has pledged to promote sustainability amongst private corporations and government agencies is also discussed and finally the way forward on what corporations should do to maintain sustainability with the support of the government is discussed.

7. Tengku Akbar Tengku Abdullah (2010), Access Pricing in Malaysian Telecommunications, in Qualitative Research in Accounting: Malaysian Cases, pp. 173-183, Penerbit UKM.

ABSTRACT

In Malaysia, there is a potential for growth for licensed network operators as at present the broadband penetration rate is still very low. As access network provides economies of scale and scope, the high usage of existing network can lower entry costs by allowing licensed network operators to gain access to market without having to invest a significant amount of funding in network facilities. The fund can be spent on offering quality innovative broadband services. This in turn

promotes a high level of consumer confidence in service delivery. As there is no duplicating of infrastructure investment, the infrastructure owner can ensure a good return through the optimum usage of the network facilities. The widespread accessibility enhances competition and ensures economic efficiency and brings maximum benefits to end users. To ensure effective competition, conduct regulation has to be implemented by Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission. As Telekom Malaysia Bhd has control over the fixed market segment, other licensed network operators use its network to interconnect to a greater number of locations to fulfill their customers' communication requirements. At each interconnection, an access price has to be decided, and the price must not only cover the holder's (of access network) incremental cost of providing the access but also the opportunity cost that such provision of access implies for the holder's ability to cover its common costs, and also its regulatory obligations to provide universal services. We suggest that Market determined efficient component pricing rule be considered for the pricing of access to networks used by both holders of networks and their competitors.

8. Aimun Haji Abdul Majid, Tengku Akbar Tengku Abdullah and Arshad Ahmad (2010), ABC and ABM Implementation, in *Qualitative Research in Accounting: Malaysian Cases*, pp. 65-82, Penerbit UKM.

ABSTRACT

Globalisation has spur competition beyond a country's border. Weak business organisations would not have the competitive capability of successfully expand their businesses globally. In order to be competitive, business firms need to find effective and efficient management methods to manage their operations. One of the ways is to control and reduce cost on a continuous basis. Towards this end, traditional costing systems have been unable to provide the necessary information to support the management team. Activity Based Costing (ABC) was promoted as one of the ways to overcome the situation. However, its implementation has not been encouraging. ABC system failed because the failure of personnel to be totally involved and also the requirement for radical changes in the working system. To avoid failure in implementing the ABC system, various factors must be considered such as the need for training and high level of understanding, the need for full continuous support and commitment from top management and the

need for a support system that can process cost data and information automatically to lessen the burden of information validation.

9. Tengku Akbar Tengku Abdullah (2010), Competition in the airline industry: The case of price war between Malaysia Airlines and AirAsia, *Central Asia Business Journal*, 3, November 2010, pp. 62-76.

ABSTRACT

Malaysia Airlines in the month of May 2008 launched its zero-fare campaign for local as well as for Southeast Asia destinations. AirAsia claimed that Malaysia Airlines is cross-subsidising the zero-fare campaign with profits from international routes. In addition, Malaysia Airlines is accused of practicing predatory pricing. There is a simple test for cross subsidy and predatory pricing. The simple test for cross subsidy is the cost approach. If the revenue from a subset of outputs is less than its incremental cost, the subset is the receiver of cross subsidy. The test for predatory pricing is that any price below variable cost is predatory if it can prove that the price constitutes a threat to an efficient firm. In addition, it must be shown that the predator tries to eliminate its competitors. Once the competitors exit the market, it must also be shown that the predator firm raises the price to recoup the losses suffered in price wars. In this price war, there is no evidence of cross subsidy. Similarly, the Malaysia Airlines aggressive pricing is not predatory.

10. Tengku Akbar Bin Tengku Abdullah and Mohammed Naim Chaker (2010), Competency Skills Development in Accounting: Evidence from Kazakhstan Institute of Management Economics and Strategic Research (KIMEP), Kazakhstan, Business and Management Conference 2010, Cyberjaya, Kuala Lumpur.

ABSTRACT

Accounting education has been criticized for not training accountants to meet the changing demands of the globalised markets. As the role of accountants has changed from scorekeeper to provider and interpreter of information, the adequacy of accounting syllabi to equip professional accountants in the challenging economy has been questioned. The aim of this paper is to assess the sufficiency of the proficiencies and skills and values

taught to accounting students at KIMEP. To achieve this aim, a survey research method is used. The respondents for the study were taken from KIMEP's alumni's office database. Out of 355 B.Sc. in Business Administration and Accounting graduates, only 200 graduates could be contacted. From these respondents, 30 per cent (60 respondents) duly completed the questionnaires. With the assistance of the big four audit firms, 24 more completed questionnaires were obtained. The total response rate was 38%. Out of 84 duly completed questionnaires, 7 were not usable. In this paper, we report the findings of the survey on: communication skills; information development and distribution skills; decision-making skills; knowledge of financial accounting; knowledge of management accounting; knowledge of auditing; knowledge of taxation; knowledge of business environment; professional ethics; professionalism; and leadership development. As this study seeks to explore the perception of the respondents on various competency skills, descriptive statistics are used. Generally, this study has found that KIMEP accounting graduates are equipped with competency skills to do accounting work. However, there are certain skills need to be further enhanced in the area of accountancy.

11. Dr. Seloamoney Palaniandy (2007). *Teacher Behaviour Versus student Behaviour: The Influence of Teacher Characteristics Upon Student Behavioural Management in Malaysian secondary schools: A Study of Student Perceptions of Teacher Characteristics*. Published by Athens Institute of Educational Research, Athens, Greece. 28th -31st of May 2007.

ABSTRACT

This study was set to unravel the association between teacher characteristics and their professional relationships with students. It identified and analysed 'weaknesses' on the part of teachers that caused strained relationships with students which in turn contributed or added to student discipline problems in general. The study further attempted to depict features of the hidden curriculum, the implicit elements of rules, conduct, values and how meaning is constructed in teacher-student interactions. A stratified random sample of eight secondary schools were selected from the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (N=240) where at least 5% of the student population in each school were identified as having some form of disciplinary problems. The

respondents were divided into two categories. The first group consisted of good students selected from the prefects or student leaders. The second group of students represented the 'problematic' category, chosen by virtue of their frequency of referrals in their respective schools. A quantitative questionnaire in the form of a seven pointer Likert-Type rating scale was designed to include a number of negatively perceived teacher characteristics like incompetence in teaching, insensitivity to student needs, respect for school rules, commitment towards professional practice, mannerism and self-image. Data was computed and analysed using SPSS. Factor analysis was used as data reduction technique to summarise teacher characteristic domains. The subsequent analysis showed there was a difference in the perception between the two groups of students. The 'problematic' students perceived the negative teacher characteristics more the prefects giving possible implications to the management of student discipline in schools.

12. Dr. Seloamoney Palaniandy (2005). "Technology for Technology Sake?" *Identifying Effective Learning Environments, A Qualitative Study in Five Malaysian Schools*. European Association for Research in Learning and Instruction (EARLI), University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus. International Conference (Effective Learning Environment). 22nd -27th of August, 2005.

ABSTRACT

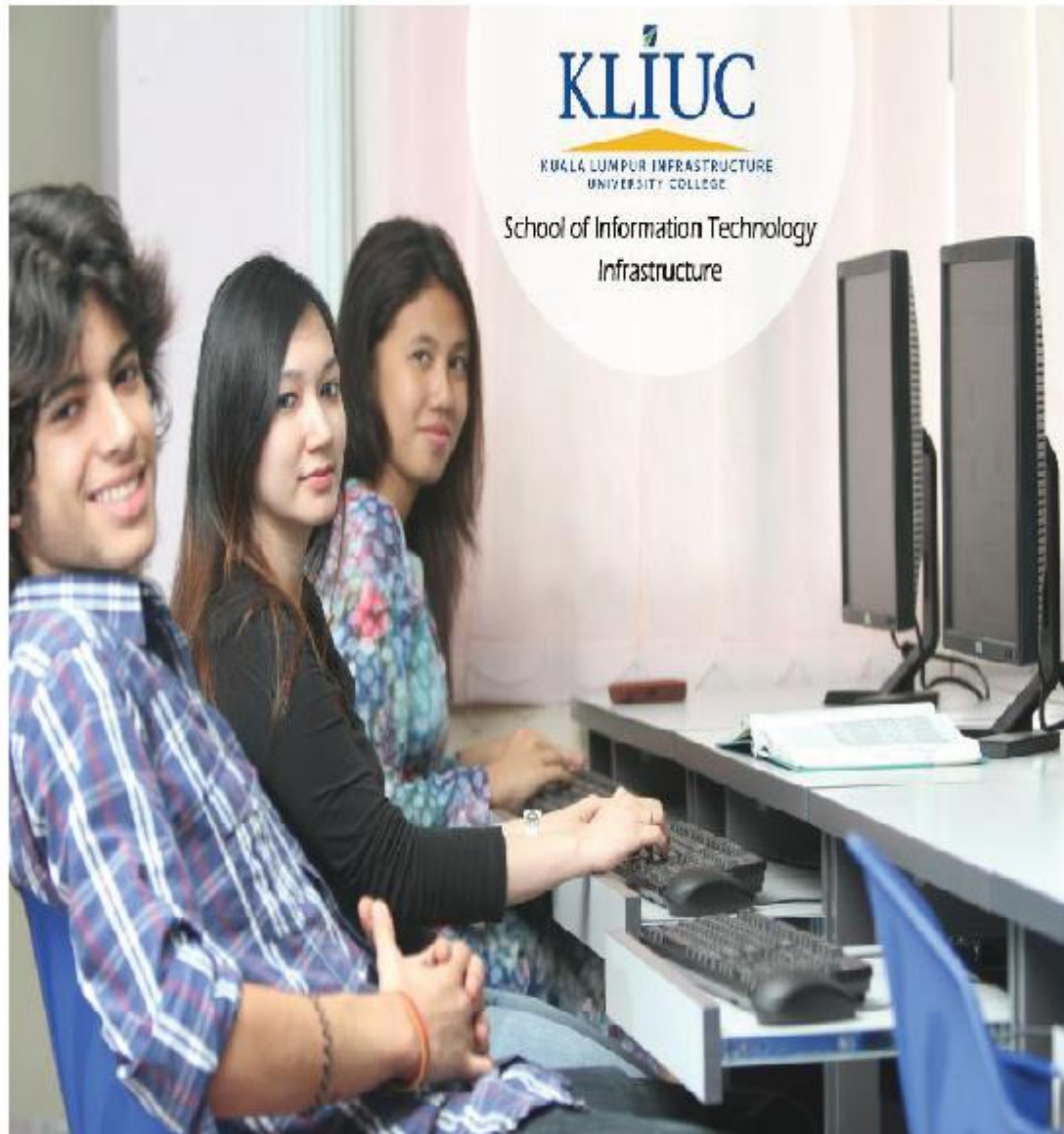
The aim of this study was to explore teacher perceptions of technology in the creation of effective learning environments. This qualitative study which involved five primary school teachers in some of the remote and sub-urban regions of Selangor, Malaysia revealed that, teachers exhibit positive attitude towards audio-visual aids in instruction. However, observational measures carried out reveal that, teachers who were involved in the study, use technology based audio-visual aids such as slide projector and OHP without discretion. This is to say that they use technology for technology sake without considering the 'added value' they might bring about in the learning process. The study ends with suggestion for the effective use of the 'natural environment' of the school locations wherever appropriate to enhance learning.

13. Dr. Seloamoney Palaniandy (2005). Title: The Dilemma of the "Insider Researcher". Qualitative Research Association of Malaysia (QRAM), National Conference, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. 7th -8th of June 2005.

ABSTRACT

This paper discusses some of the advantages and disadvantages of being an "Insider Researcher" and the ethical dilemmas they might pose. The study analyses 'emic' and 'etic' perspectives in the context of the writer's own experiences. Emic and etic are terms used by anthropologists and by others in the social behavioural sciences to refer to two kinds of data concerning human behaviour. In particular, they are used in cultural anthropology to refer to kinds of fieldwork done and viewpoints obtained; an "emic" account is a description of behaviour or a belief in term meaningful (consciously or unconsciously) to the actor; that is, an 'emic' account comes from person within the culture. Almost anything from within a culture can provide an 'emic' account. An "etic" account is a description of a behaviour or belief by an observer, in terms that can be applied to other cultures; that is, an 'etic' account attempts to be 'culturally neutral'.

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE



1. Suhaila Mohd Nordin, Robiatul Adawiyah and Hafiza Ahmad (2011), Implementing Knowledge Communication Tools in Teaching Programming Course Cooperating Problem

ABSTRACT

Programming is a fundamental skill that all Computer Science (CS) students are required to learn. However, programming courses (PCs) are generally regarded as difficult, and often have the highest dropout rates. In order to overcome the difficulties of teaching and learning PCs, a knowledge communication tools cooperating with problem-based learning (PBL) model is used to improve students' performance and achievement. This poster will illustrate a research framework of the IMCOT implementation for Teaching, Learning and student assessment in PC's. We outline, the application of a tailored multimedia courseware as a communication tools. Finally by referring to the research framework, a series of evaluations will be conducted to measure the effectiveness in students programming ability before and after Implementing IMCOT Multimedia courseware.

Keywords: Knowledge Communication, Programming Course, Problem Base Learning, multimedia courseware.

2. Janagiammal Ramasamy, Sangeetha Valloo, Jaya Malathy Poloha Nandan. (2010) Effectiveness of Blog for Programming Course in Supporting Engineering Students. School of Information Technology Infrastructure. Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College (KLIUC), Malaysia

ABSTRACT

Programming course teaches students to understanding the concepts of programming and develop application effectively. Students have to acquire skills to identify problems and find suitable solution accordingly. Exposing students to classroom sessions may not be sufficient to ensure they are able to digest and develop the skills required in designing an application. Moreover, engineering program does not include many programming courses to enhance the students'

understanding. To supplement the course, blog is used to provide an opportunity for students to participate and share knowledge on programming concepts and principles. A blog or a web log is a user-generated website where entries are made in journal style and displayed in a reverse chronological order. A blog component model is related to Kolb's experimental learning which involves four stages; concrete experience, reflection on observation, conceptualization of the relevant knowledge, and active experimentation which validate the gained knowledge. The key stage is the reflection stage which is defined as a process where the students make connection between experience and abstract concepts. To measure the effectiveness of the blog as a discussion tool, two set of data used. The effectiveness of blog is evaluated using two important measures which are student performance and blog performance. This paper discuss on the early stage of development of the blog and measurement elements.

Keywords- blog, discussion, programming course

3. Robiatul A'dawiah Jamaluddin. (2010) Multimedia Software For Pre-school Children Using Animated Story-telling Approach. 4th International Malaysian Educational Technology Convention (IMETC 2010), by Malaysian Educational Technology Association (META), 26-29 September 2010, Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

ABSTRACT

Learning through entertainment (edutainment) is one of the learning techniques enjoyed preferred by pre-school children with the age range of 5 to 6 years old. This learning environment is only possible through multimedia package. Multimedia refers to connection of more than one media namely, text, graphic, animation, audio and video which are combined into a package. It has the potential to serve as Learning Aided Tool (LAT) to enhance understanding and performance of students especially in difficult topics. This study discusses on the issues of development and evaluation of multimedia software using story-telling approach. It is meant for pre-school children to learn Science subject. The software is named MyScience and its content focuses on 'Exploring the Space' theme. Story telling is very suitable for children. This study begins with a research in 10 selected schools in the Hulu Langat District. Then, it continues with analyses, design, software

development, implementation and evaluation using formative and summative methods which are based on ADDIE model. The software development process is conducted by referring to four educational theories namely, behaviorism theory, cognitive theory, constructive theory and Zone Proximal Development theory. The main objective is to measure performance and to identify effective factors stimulating performance of children. The methodology of this study is quantitative based, which applies design of Pre-Experiment type One Group Pre and Post Test. This design only uses group which will undergo treatment experiment, using Pre and Post Tests. Sample of study is 20 children from one school. MyScience package has three main modules namely, Story Module, Activity Module, Test Module with other sub modules. MyScience provides informative and exciting learning environment for pre-school children.

Key words: animation, story, interactive, multimedia, pre-school, science.

4. Robiatul A'dawiah Jamaluddin. (2010) The approach of Animation in multimedia software for pre-school Science. The International Management Education Conference 2010 (IMEC 2010), Management Education: Innovation and Globalization', by UPSI, Mahkota Hotel, Melaka, 6-8 October 2010.

ABSTRACT

Computer Software which combines various types of media such as text, graphic, animation, audio and video is also known as the multimedia software. The multimedia possesses a great potential as the assisting tool in classrooms in order to enhance the quality of both learning and teaching. This research elaborates on the issues of structuring and testing the multimedia software that are influenced or based on the techniques of narration or story-telling. This software is named MyScience and the users of this software are pre-schoolers; aged between 5 and 6 years old. The research procedure begins with an initial research on 10 chosen schools from the district of Hulu Langat. The findings discovered that the chapter 'Space Exploration' is the most difficult topic to be taught by the pre-school teachers, with the average mean of 4.64. The ability to conduct the basic process of science, which is to hypothesize, has the mean value of 3.00 whereas the mean for the ability to explain is 3.3636 and the ability to measure is 3.27. The research activities are based on

the ADDIE model with reference to 4 learning theories, namely the Behaviourist theory, Cognitive theory, Constructive theory and *Zone Proximal Development*. The objectives of the research is to measure the performance as well as to identify the factors that may influence or contribute to the students' performance in the topic 'Space Exploration'. This research methodology uses a quantitative research which is complements by Pre-Experiments of Pre-Test for Post Group. The sample chosen is made of 20 children from a school. The MyScience package is consists of 5 major modules which are the Narrative Module, Activity Module, Test Module, Reference Module and Assistance Module. MyScience provides an informative and fun learning process for pre-schoolers. This invention of ABM is an effort to promote and implements the usage of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in pre-school to encourage brighter generations of science and *Information Technology*.

Keywords: multimedia, pre-school, science, narrative, animation

5. Robiatul A'dawiah Jamaluddin. (2010) Impak perisian berasaskan pendekatan penceritaan animasi interaktif terhadap pendidikan sains prasekolah. Pendidikan Sains Prasekolah, PROSIDING Regional Conference on Knowledge. Integrtn in ICT 2010 (INTEGRATION 2010), "Hi Tech and Hi Touch in Developing Nations", KUIS, 1 June 2010.

ABSTRACT

Pembelajaran Berbantuan Komputer (PBK) menjadi satu fenomena yang penting dalam meningkatkan mutu pendidikan, kerana ia membantu mempermudah proses pengajaran dan pembelajaran setiap individu yang menggunakannya. Kajian ini bertujuan membina satu perisian pendidikan multimedia interaktif dan setelah ia siap dibangunkan, ujian akan dilakukan untuk mengukur pencapaian dan mengenalpasti faktor keberkesanan setelah kanak-kanak menggunakan perisian MyScience. Di samping itu kajian ini juga ingin melihat perbezaan pencapaian di antara kanak-kanak perempuan dan kanak-kanak lelaki. MyScience dibangunkan dengan berpanduan kepada sukatan Kurikulum Prasekolah Kebangsaan, 2006 dan memfokus kepada mata pelajaran Sains bertema 'Meneroka Angkasa' untuk peringkat prasekolah sahaja. Pendekatan yang digunakan ialah cerita animasi interaktif gabungan 2D dan 3D. Bagi memastikan kesahihan hasil kajian, proses kajian yang

dilakukan turut merujuk kepada teori-teori pembelajaran seperti teori pembelajaran behaviourisme, kognitivisme, konstruktivisme dan scaffolding. Analisis awal telah dilakukan kepada 10 buah prasekolah yang di bawah pengurusan Kementerian Pelajaran Malaysia daerah Hulu Langat, untuk mengenalpasti masalah yang berlaku. Hasil analisis mendapati pengajaran Sains sedia ada masih berpusatkan guru. Tema 'Meneroka Angkasa' dipilih setelah analisis awal menunjukkan tema ini adalah yang paling sukar untuk dikendalikan oleh guru prasekolah berbanding tema-tema yang lain. Kajian ini akan menggunakan kaedah penyelidikan eksperimen iaitu perlu ada kumpulan kawalan dan kumpulan eksperimen. Model ADDIE digunakan sebagai landasan, dan kesemua modul di dalamnya memiliki isi kandungan yang disesuaikan dengan tema 'Meneroka Angkasa'. Modul utama yang terkandung di dalam perisian MyScience ini ialah modul penceritaan, modul aktiviti dan modul ujian. Agen pegagogi turut digunakan untuk membantu kanak-kanak mengguna, mengendali dan meneroka keseluruhan isi kandungan perisian MyScience. Kata Kunci: Sains, Prasekolah, Multimedia, Interaktif, Cerita Animasi.

6. Robiatul A'dawiah Jamaluddin. (2010) Pakej Pembelajaran Sains Kanak-Kanak Prasekolah untuk Tema 'Meneroka Angkasa' Menggunakan Pendekatan Cerita Animasi Interaktif. Seminar Kebangsaan Negara Ke-4 (SKEPEN 2010), 'Transformasi dan Inovasi dalam Pendidikan Negara', UKM, 3-4 August 2010.

ABSTRACT

Pengintegrasian ICT dalam pendidikan telah merubah proses dan aktiviti pembelajaran di dalam bilik darjah untuk semua peringkat pendidikan serta menyumbang kepada menyempurnaan objektif kurikulum pendidikan. Kajian ini membincangkan isu-isu pembinaan dan penilaian pakej pembelajaran sains untuk kanak-kanak prasekolah yang menggunakan pendekatan bercerita. Teknik bercerita dijalinkan dengan objek atau karektor animasi, elemen-elemen multimedia dan ciri-ciri interaktif, menjadikan pakej multimedia satu alat bantu mengajar (ABM) yang sangat berkesan dan disukai oleh kanak-kanak. Prosedur kajian ini dimulai dengan kajian rintis di 10 buah sekolah terpilih dalam daerah Hulu Langat. Kemudian diteruskan dengan aktiviti-aktiviti menganalisis, merekabentuk, membangunkan perisian, melaksana dan menilai menggunakan kaedah formatif

dan sumatif berlandaskan Model ADDIE. Pakej pembelajaran sains yang diberi nama MyScience ini mengandungi isi kandungan untuk mempelajari tema 'Meneroka Angkasa'. Proses pembangunan pakej dilakukan dengan merujuk kepada empat teori pendidikan iaitu teori tingkahlaku, kognitif, konstruktif dan Zone Proximal Development. Objektif utama ialah untuk mengukur pencapaian dan mengenalpasti faktor keberkesanan yang mempengaruhi pencapaian kanak-kanak. Metodologi kajian ini berbentuk kuantitatif, yang menggunakan reka bentuk Pra-Eksperimen jenis Ujian Pra-Ujian Pos Satu Kumpulan. Reka bentuk ini hanya menggunakan kumpulan rawatan yang akan melalui proses rawatan eksperimen, menggunakan Ujian Pra dan Ujian Pos. Sampel kajian adalah seramai 20 orang kanak-kanak dari 1 sekolah. Kumpulan yang kecil digunakan kerana kajian yang melibatkan kanak-kanak perlu melakukan pemerhatian yang teliti. Pakej MyScience memiliki tiga modul utama iaitu Modul Cerita, Modul Aktiviti, Modul Ujian serta sub modul bantuan yang lain. Kajian ini miliki kepentingan dan memberi sumbangan kepada proses pengajaran sains awal, membina generasi pintar sains dan celik IT yang bersedia untuk berhadapan dengan persaingan semasa, dan memajukan negara di masa akan datang. Kata kunci: animasi, cerita, interaktif, multimedia, prasekolah, sains.

7. Robiatul A'dawiah Jamaluddin. (2010) The Multimedia Software of Pre School Science Education Based On Interactive Animation Stories' approach. Lifelong Learning International Conference 2010 (3LInC '10), 'Enhancing Human and Social Capital through Lifelong Learning', by USM, 10 - 12 November 2010 : Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

ABSTRACT

This research was aimed to develop interactive multimedia software and to determine its competencies. This Computer Aided Learning (CAL) was established based on National Pre-School Curriculum, 2006, Education Ministry of Malaysia. This Computer Aided Learning (CAL) focused on Science subject with the theme of 'Explore the Space' for pre-school level. The development of educational multimedia software with animated story approach making the learning process more fun as well as enable teachers to convey knowledge in easier way. Furthermore, this study refers to the learning theories, for instance, behaviorism,

cognitivism, constructivism as well as scaffolding. This software package was developed using ADDIE methodology and Adobe Director 11 software as the base. The interactive animated story approach used in the exploration module includes stories of 9 planets in the solar system; Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. Early analysis was done in 10 preschools managed by the Education Ministry of Malaysia. From the analysis, it was found that the current Science teaching is teacher-oriented. This contributes to the development of the children with criterion such as passive, lack of confidence to speak and depend solely on their teachers.

Index Terms— Multimedia, interactive, storytelling, pre-school, science

8. Robiatul A'dawiah Jamaluddin. (2010) Pendekatan Cerita Animasi di Dalam Perisian Multimedia Untuk Subjek Sains Prasekolah. Seminar Kebangsaan Sains Komputer dan Matematik (SKSKM 2010), 'Sains Komputer dan Matematik Pemangkin Pembangunan Modal Insan', by UITM, 21-22 December 2010, Kompleks Pentadbiran Kerajaan Persekutuan, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.

ABSTRACT

Sains komputer menggunakan bahasa pengaturcaraan untuk menulis perisian komputer. Perisian komputer yang mengabungkan berbagai jenis media seperti teks, grafik, animasi, audio dan video dipanggil perisian multimedia. Multimedia berpotensi sebagai alat bantu mengajar (ABM) untuk meningkatkan kualiti pengajaran dan pembelajaran. Kajian ini membincangkan isu-isu pembinaan dan penilaian perisian multimedia yang dibangunkan dengan menggunakan pendekatan penceritaan atau bercerita. Perisian ini diberi nama MyScience dan penggunaannya ialah pelajar prasekolah berumur 5 hingga 6 tahun. Prosedur kajian dimulai dengan kajian rintis di 10 buah sekolah terpilih dalam daerah Hulu Langat. Hasil analisis mendapati tema 'Meneroka Angkasa' merupakan tema yang paling sukar untuk diajar oleh guru prasekolah dengan nilai min 4.64. Manakala kebolehan melakukan proses sains yang paling rendah ialah 'menghipotesis' dengan nilai min 3.00, kebolehan 'menerang' dengan nilai min 3.3636 dan kebolehan 'mengukur' dengan nilai min 3.27. Aktiviti kajian adalah berlandaskan Model ADDIE, serta merujuk kepada empat teori pendidikan iaitu teori

tingkahlaku, kognitif, konstruktif dan Zone Proximal Development. Objektifnya ialah untuk mengukur pencapaian dan mengenalpasti faktor keberkesanan yang mempengaruhi pencapaian pelajar untuk tema 'Meneroka Angkasa'. Metodologi kajian berbentuk kuantitatif, dengan reka bentuk Pra-Eksperimen jenis Ujian Pra-Ujian Pos Satu Kumpulan. Sampel kajian adalah seramai 20 orang kanak-kanak dari 1 sekolah. Pakej MyScience memiliki tiga modul utama iaitu Modul Cerita, Modul Aktiviti, Modul Ujian, Modul Rujukan, Modul Bantuan serta sub modul yang lain. MyScience menyediakan suasana pembelajaran penuh berinformasi dan menyeronokkan untuk pelajar prasekolah. Penciptaan ABM ini adalah usaha memperkembangkan Information and Communication Technology (ICT) di prasekolah untuk melahirkan generasi pintar sains dan celik IT (Information Technology).

Kata kunci: multimedia, prasekolah, sains, cerita, animasi

9. Suhaila Mohd Nordin and Muhammad Hasbie Othman (2009). Implementation of Bloom Taxonomy in Online Assessment and Item Storage System. 2nd International Conference on E-Learning UITM Shah Alam (2nd Icel:: 1-2.12.2009 : UITM)

ABSTRACT

Conventionally, educators use Blooms Taxonomy as a foundation to create examination questions and other assessment instruments. The main purpose of the taxonomy is to provide classifications of educational system goals, to discuss curriculum and evaluate problems with greater precision. Therefore in this paper, we will describe an approach of implementing and testing the concepts of blooms taxonomy framework with the Online Assessment and Item Storage System (OASISS) developed in 2008. We also illustrate a simple process of applying it in computer science and present a case study of how it may be applied in a Fundamental Programming course. OASISS is a planned system with a combination of two types of subsystems. The question bank system is a system to store questions papers (items) for examinations, tests, quizzes, assignments and etc electronically and the online examination system is a system for students to sit for examinations or tests online. The implementation of OASISS in the School of IT Infrastructure (SOITI) will centralize storing of question papers for the entire courses offered by the

school. All items will be stored in a local server and can be accessed from any valid local stations through a website. Another feature of the system is that it can capture words and sentences in questions as input to the system. This wording is then analyzed and the result of the analysis will determine the level of difficulty for all questions according to bloom taxonomy theory. OASISS will be able to improve the quality of the questions the lecturers produce and easily manage the testing process.
Keywords: Assessment, Bloom Taxonomy, Theoretical Framework, OASISS.

10. Suhaila Sardi, Safawi Abdul Rahman & Mohamad Shanudin Zakaria (2008), A Need for Understanding Collective Intelligent Characters, INCID 2008, KLIUC

ABSTRACT

The discourses on intelligent characters as in textbooks exclude some vital characters and often do not overwhelm entire important intelligent characters. The discussion of intelligent characters is often selective and goes around selected characters as attributable and referenced to specific abilities of an intelligent agent. The tendency towards isolating the discussion of intelligent characters would lead to confusion among novices e.g. students on 1st and 2nd year in the university, to understand and recognize the set of vital characters that should be possessed by an agent; hence this isolation should be eluded. This paper highlights this issue by reviewing the textbooks used in Malaysia's public universities through a content analysis method. We argue that there is a need for discussing intelligent characters collectively to allow novice group to be exposed to a better and meaningful understanding on intelligent characters. In the context of learning, the understanding of collective intelligent characters could be considered as basic knowledge, i.e. one of the infrastructures that is required to facilitate and boost knowledge acquisition process.

Keywords: Understanding, Recognizing, Collective, Intelligent Characters

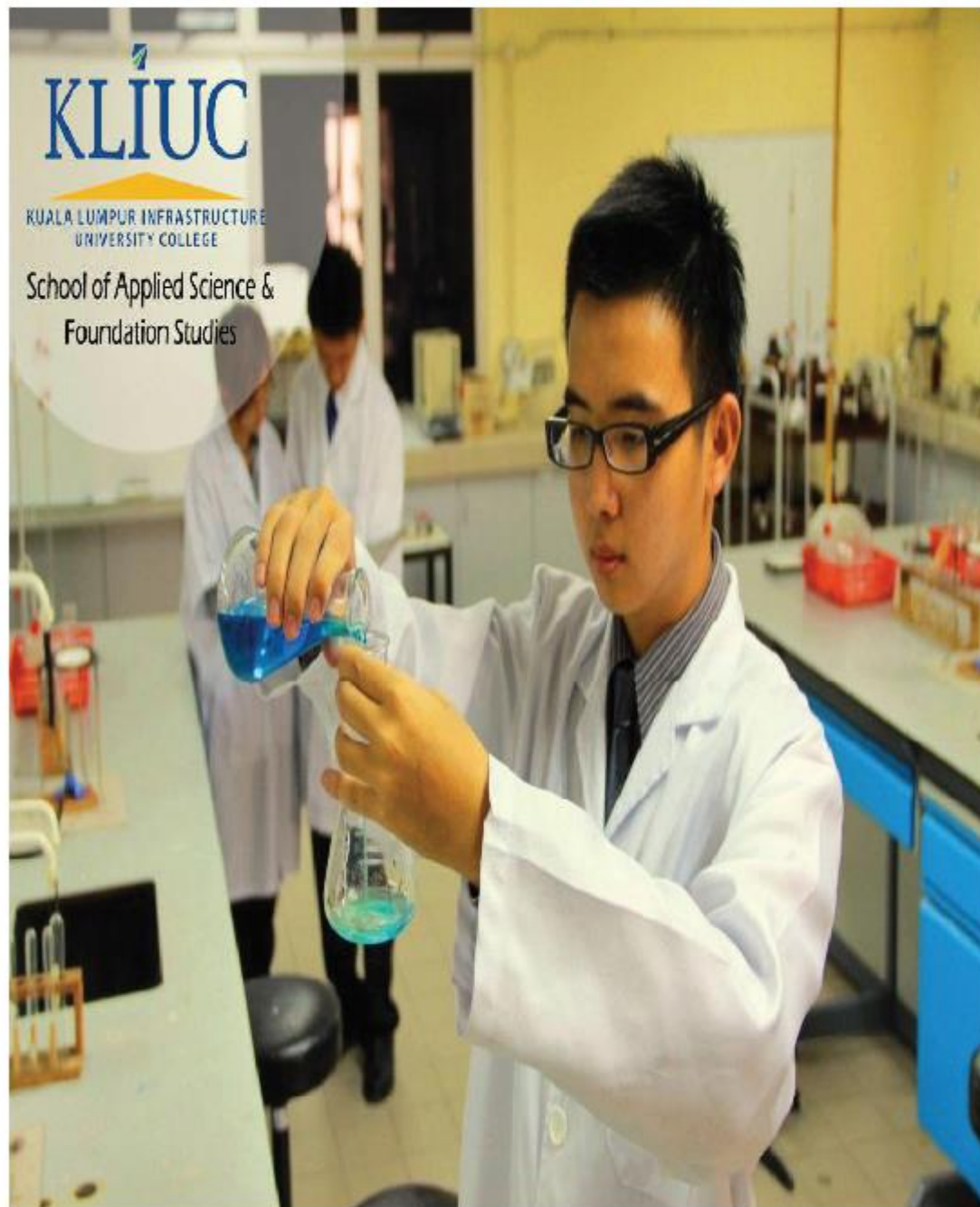
11. Suhaila Mohd Nordin and Muhammad Hasbie Othman (2008) Oasiss Infrastructure: A Detailed Research On System Structure For Online Assesment And Item Storage System. InCid 2008, KLIUC

ABSTRACT

The prime motivation on conducting this research is to provide a foundation of another type of infrastructure to the educators in terms of having an online examination and question bank system in the coming future. The researcher found that the success of any type of assessment not merely concern with difficulty level of question being used; the usage of the best facilities within the technology may also give a tremendous impact. This paper will present the findings of a study that aims at identifying a concept and developing a framework in designing a system structure for an Online Assessment and Item Storage System (OASISS).

Keyword: Taxonomy Blooms, Assessments and Item Storage, Question Bank, Online Assessment and Item Storage System.

SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND FOUNDATION STUDIES



1. Lim, H.A. (2011). Robust Linear Model Estimation for Autocorrelated Data in the Presence of High Leverage Points. *Fundamental Science Congress 2011. Universiti Putra Malaysia*. 5th – 6th July 2011.

ABSTRACT

Autocorrelation problem causes the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) estimators to become inefficient. Hence, the appropriate remedial measure must be taken. Cochrane-Orcutt Praise-Winsten (COPW) iterative method is the most commonly used remedial measure in econometrics to obtain estimators with all the optimum BLUE properties. However, this procedure is based on the OLS estimates, which is not robust and easily affected by high leverage points and outliers. In this paper, we propose a robust Cochrane-Orcutt Praise-Winsten (COPWMM) iterative method which incorporate the high asymptotic efficiency and high breakdown MM-estimator. The results of the study show that the COPWMM iterative method is more reliable and efficient as compared to COPW iterative method. It also provides a better one step ahead forecast than the OLS and COPW regression model.

2. Lim, H.A. (2011). Robust Linear Model Estimation for Autocorrelated Data Based on MM Estimator. *Seminar Kebangsaan Pascasiswazah Statistik ISM 1, Universiti Malaya*, 12 May 2011.

ABSTRACT

The Cochrane-Orcutt Praise-Winsten (COPW) iterative method is the most commonly used remedial measure in econometrics to remedy the problems of autocorrelation in linear model. However, not many statistics practitioners are aware of the fact that outliers have an unduly effects on the COPW estimates because it is based on the OLS which is easily affected by outliers. In this paper we propose a robust Cochrane-Orcutt Praise-Winsten (RCOPW) iterative method based on high efficiency and high breakdown MM estimator. The empirical evidences show that both estimators perform equally good when no contamination occurs in the model. Nonetheless, the performance of RCOPW is superior than the COPW when outliers occurred in the data.

3. Kong, W., Kong, I. and Abd-Shukor, R. (2010). Superconducting and Transport Properties of FeF₂ Added YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-δ} Superconductor. *Proceedings: 18th International Conference on Composites and Nano Engineering*. July 4-10.

ABSTRACT

Magnetic impurities generally suppress the superconductivity. In this work, we studied the effect of FeF₂ additions in YBCO on the transition temperatures and transport critical current density. The YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-δ} superconductor powders were prepared by solid state reaction of high purity Y₂O₃, BaO and CuO powders. FeF₂ was added to the YBCO powders with amounts of 0.01 to 0.10 wt.%. The electrical resistance-temperature measurements were carried out by the four-point probe technique. The transport critical current density was measured on bar-shaped samples at 77 K using the 1 μV/cm criterion. XRD patterns of the samples were recorded using a Siemens D 5000 diffractometer with CuK_α radiation. 0.03 wt% FeF₂ managed to improve the critical temperature (T_c) and transport critical current density (J_c). Excessive FeF₂ addition leads to degradation in T_c and J_c . FeF₂-added samples showed no systematic variation in the lattice parameters with respect to the pure sample. This result indicates that FeF₂ most probably does not enter the YBCO crystal structure.

4. Kong, W., Kong, I. and Abd-Shukor, R. (2010). Effects of FeF₂ Addition on Superconducting and Transport Properties of YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-δ}. *Proceedings: 3rd International Conference on Solid State Science & Technology*. December 1-3.

ABSTRACT

The effects of FeF₂ addition on superconducting and transport properties of YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-δ} (YBCO) were studied. YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-δ} superconductor powders were prepared by solid state reaction. FeF₂ of average size 120 nm was added into YBCO for 0 - 0.07 wt.%. Transition temperature (T_c) of the samples was measured by using four point probe method. It is interesting to note that samples with FeF₂ addition up to 0.03 wt.% showed a higher T_c value compared to the pure YBCO sample. The magnetization properties were measured by using a vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) for the respective temperature at 77 K. All the samples exhibited a significant perfect diamagnetism curves.

From the magnetization hysteresis loops, the transport critical current density (J_c) of the samples has been estimated by the extended Bean model. It was found that J has been increased with FeF₂ addition up to 0.03 wt.% (compared with the pure sample). The enhanced J_c can be interpreted as a result of FeF₂ addition in grain boundaries. The excessive addition of FeF₂ (> 0.03 wt.%) suppressed the T_c and J_c . Hence, superconducting and transport properties can be improved with appropriate amount of FeF₂ addition.

5. Abd-Shukor, R. and Kong, W. (2010). Calculated Sound Velocity and Elastic Moduli Changes in LaOFeP and LiFeAs at the Superconducting Transition. *Journal of Superconductivity and Novel Magnetism*. DOI 10.1007/s10948-010-1064-6. October.

ABSTRACT

The changes in elastic modulus and sound velocity of LaOFeP and LiFeAs at their transition temperatures were calculated using various thermodynamics data. Step discontinuities of 59 ppm in the bulk modulus, 101 ppm in Young modulus and 15 ppm in longitudinal sound velocity were estimated for LaOFeP at the superconducting transition. For LiFeAs, the calculated step discontinuities were 25 ppm in the bulk modulus, 38 ppm in Young modulus and 7 ppm in longitudinal sound velocity.

6. Nurismah MI, Sharifah NA, Lee SY, Rohaizak M, A.Rahman AJ, Nor Aina E, Hisham AN, Yoon SY, Toh GT. (2008). *BRCA2 sequence variants in high risk breast cancer patients: A study in three hospitals in Malaysia*. The 27th Congress of the International Academy of Pathology.

ABSTRACT

Germ-line mutation of the tumour suppressor gene, BRCA2 is known to predispose high risk individuals to breast cancer. In Malaysia, breast cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related death in women. However, little is known about the contribution of BRCA2 mutation to development of breast cancer in Malaysian patients. The objective of this study is to investigate the role of BRCA2 mutation in Malaysian breast cancer patients. Twenty one high-risk breast cancer patients from Hospital Universiti Kebangsaan

Malaysia, Hospital Kuala Lumpur and Hospital Putrajaya were selected. DNA material was extracted from their peripheral blood followed by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) on 48 amplicons in the BRCA2 gene. Direct sequencing was performed on the purified PCR products followed by sequence analysis. We identified seven BRCA2 sequence variants in 21 patients. Of the seven sequence variants, five were of the synonymous type, one was a missense and one was in untranslated region. All of them had been reported previously at the Breast Cancer Information Core. The most frequent sequence variant identified was 1342C>A which was seen in 15 (71%) patients followed by 7470A>G in 12 (57%), 203G>A in 11(52%) patients, 4035T>C in 10 (47%) patients and 3624A>G in nine (43%) patients, and 2457T>C and 1593A>G in one (5%) patient each. Fifteen of the 21 patients were early-onset cases, six had family history of breast cancer, three were bilateral cases and one was a male patient. Two of the early-onset cases and one of the bilateral cases also had positive family history of breast cancer. Seven patients had more than one sequence variants. Since the identification of BRCA2 gene in 1995, more than 400 sequence variants have been detected. Most of the current available data on the prevalence of BRCA2 among breast cancer patients in the literature are on the Western population. Our preliminary results showed that BRCA2 mutation has a role in the development of breast cancer in a proportion of high risk breast cancer patients in Malaysia.

7. Jaya Chitra Ramalu, Nalinah Poongavanam and Mohd. Mahzan bin Awang. (2008) Factors That Influence The Performance In Chemistry Among Engineering Students at KLIUC.

ABSTRACT

Understanding factors that influence the performance of students in chemistry would allow an insight and understanding of vital characteristics that can be utilized to modify the education setting to benefit students. To this end, questionnaires were administered to a sample of 120 engineering students who were randomly selected. The questionnaire queried students to rank and evaluate various social, educational and attitudinal factors in terms of their importance and influence in shaping the students' performance in the subject. The data was analyzed by way of correlation analysis, multiple linear regression and t-test significant analysis. It was found that student's performance in Chemistry is

positively influenced by number of siblings studying in university, chemistry results in school, understanding the lectures conducted, extra tutorials, quizzes and tests, family support and being active in sports, clubs and societies.

8. Nurismah Md Isa, Lee Su Yee, Sharifah Noor Akmal, Clarence-Ko Ching Huat, Rohaizak Mohammad, Abdul Rahman Abdul Jamal, Nor Aina Emran, Hisham Abdullah, Yoon Sook Yee, Toh Gaik Theng. (2007). *Detection and characterisation of BRCA2 germline mutation in Malaysian high-risk breast cancer patients*. The 2nd Regional Conference on Molecular Medicine, page 47.

ABSTRACT

Breast cancer, one of the most common and deleterious of all diseases affecting women, occurs in hereditary and sporadic forms. Hereditary breast cancers are genetically heterogeneous; susceptibility is variously attributable to germline mutations in the BRCA genes, each of which is considered to be a tumour suppressor gene. The aims of this study are to evaluate the prevalence of simple sequence variation in the BRCA2 gene and to identify whether the sequence variant is a common polymorphism or clinically pathogenic mutation. Materials and Methods: We screened 17 high-risk breast cancer patients composed of familial, early-onset and male cancer groups. Clinical information and peripheral blood were obtained from fully-informed and consenting individuals. Genomic DNA was extracted followed by the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technique. We performed direct DNA sequencing on the PCR products to identify BRCA2 sequence variants. Results: The mutation spectrum of the coding (10,257 bp) sequences of BRCA2 was analysed. Sequence variants were detected in 17 of 17 (100%) unrelated patients. In the 5' untranslated region, a sequence variant, (203G>A) was detected. Seven patients had a missense mutation in exon 10, (1342C>A) which has been previously detected in individuals from Central and Western Europe. Another sequence variant in exon 10, (1593A>G) was detected in one patient. One novel sequence variant, (2024T>C) was also identified in exon 10 in 12 (71%) patients resulting in the amino acid change from Phenylalanine to Serine. Two sequence variants (3624A>G and 4035T>C) were detected in exon 11. In exon 14, one sequence variant, (7470A>G) was detected in three patients. These findings were consistent with the result formerly reported in Breast Cancer Information

Core (BIC). Conclusion: Our preliminary results showed that there is a role of BRCA2 mutations in high-risk breast cancer patients in Malaysia.

9. Nurismah M. I., Lee S.Y., Sharifah N.A., Rohaizak M., Hisham A.N., Nor Aina E., Yoon S.Y., Toh G.T., A. Rahman A.J. (2006). *Detection of BRCA2 mutations in Malaysian Breast Cancer Patients*. The 8th Medical and Health Research Week (2006), pg 42.

ABSTRACT

Breast cancer is the number one cancer affecting females in Malaysia (National Cancer Registry Report 2003). Many underlying genetic and epidemiological factors have been implicated in the development of breast cancer. The most important genetic factors associated with breast cancer are the Breast Cancer Susceptibility Gene 1 (BRCA1) and Breast Cancer Susceptibility Gene 2 (BRCA2) which were identified in 1990 and 1994 respectively. Mutation of these genes occur in 5-10% of breast cancer patients. However the incidence of BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutations among Malaysian patients is not known. This study aims to determine the prevalence of BRCA2 mutation among Malaysian breast cancer patients. DNA material was extracted from the peripheral blood of 49 breast cancer patients who fulfilled the inclusion criteria. Forty eight amplicons from BRCA2 gene from 20 patients were amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Subsequently direct DNA sequencing was performed on the purified PCR product from 14 cases to detect the presence of mutation followed by sequence analysis using Blast tools at the NCBI website and Config Express Software. We detected BRCA2 sequence variant at position 4035 T > C in three patients; a 70 year old lady with bilateral breast carcinoma, a 30 year old lady with early-onset and positive family history of breast carcinoma and a 65 year old man with breast carcinoma. Our preliminary results showed similar sequence variant seen in all three patients. DNA sequencing is still on going with more interesting findings anticipated.

Keywords: breast cancer, BRCA1, BRCA2, DNA extraction, mutation, polymerase chain reaction, DNA sequencing.

10. Nurismah MI, Lee SY, Sharifah NA, Clarence-Ko CH, Rohaizak M, Nor Aina E, Hisham AN, Yoon SY, Toh GT. (2006).

ABSTRACT

Mutations in *BRCA2* gene due to the inheritance of dominant susceptibility gene carry an elevated risk of breast cancer. According to the National Cancer Registry (NCR) Malaysia 2003, every woman in Malaysia has a 1 in 19 chance of developing breast cancer in her lifetime. Although the majority of breast cancer cases occur sporadically, 10-15% of all cases are hereditary (Ligtenberg, et al. 1999). The prevalence of genetic predisposition to breast cancer conferred by *BRCA2* mutation is currently unknown in Malaysia. The objective of our study is to identify families or individuals who are at high-risk to develop breast cancer. Twenty millilitre of blood was collected from six fully informed and consenting individuals, designated BC1-BC6. Genomic DNA was extracted from the buffy coat and the complete coding region of *BRCA2* gene (10, 257bp) was amplified using the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technique followed by direct DNA sequencing. Our preliminary result showed two genetic alterations. Five patients (BC1, BC2, BC3, BC5 and BC6) were found to exhibit mutation in exon 10, (2024 T > C). Another genetic alteration was found in exon 11, (4035 T > C) in three patients (BC3, BC4 and BC5). This finding was consistent with the result formerly reported in Breast Cancer Information Core (BIC). Further studies using a larger sample size is being carried to determine the merits of genetic diagnosis and counselling in breast cancer patients. Hence, precise knowledge of molecular alterations involved in each individual breast cancer will allow more effective and less toxic, tailored therapies.

11. Lee SY, Nurismah MI, Sharifah NA, Rohaizak M, Hisham AN, Nor Aina E, Iekhsan O, Toh GT, A. Rahman AJ. (2006). *Detection and Characterisation of the BRCA2 Gene in Malaysian Breast Cancer Patients*. Selangor Excellent Young Scientist Award 2006. Jointly organized by Selangor state and UNISEL.

ABSTRACT

Mutations in *BRCA2* gene due to the inheritance of dominant susceptibility gene carry an elevated risk of breast cancer. According to the National Cancer Registry (NCR) Malaysia 2003, every woman in Malaysia has a 1 in 19 chance of developing breast cancer in her lifetime. Although the majority of breast cancer cases occur sporadically, 10-15% of all cases are hereditary (Ligtenberg, et al. 1999). The prevalence of genetic predisposition to breast cancer conferred by *BRCA2* mutation is currently unknown in Malaysia. The objective of our study is to identify individuals who are at high-risk to develop breast cancer. Twenty millilitre of blood was collected from six fully informed and consenting individuals, designated BC1-BC6. Genomic DNA was extracted from the buffy coat and the complete coding region of the *BRCA2* gene (10, 257bp) was amplified using the Touchdown Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technique followed by direct DNA sequencing. Our preliminary results showed two genetic alterations. Five patients (BC1, BC2, BC3, BC5 and BC6) were found to exhibit mutation in exon 10, (2024 T > C). Another genetic alteration was found in exon 11, (4035 T > C) in three patients (BC3, BC4 and BC5). Further studies using a larger sample size are being carried to determine the merits of genetic diagnosis and counselling in breast cancer patients. Hence, precise knowledge of molecular alterations involved in each individual breast cancer will allow more effective and less toxic, tailored therapies.

Keywords: breast cancer, *BRCA2*, DNA sequencing, mutation analysis

12. Nurismah MI, Lee SY, Sharifah NA, Clarence-Ko CH, Rohaizak M, A. Rahman AJ, Nor Aina E, Hisham AN, Yoon SY, Toh GT. (2006). *Detection and Characterisation of the BRCA2 Gene Mutation in Malaysian Breast Cancer Patients*. The 24th World Congress of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, page 151.

ABSTRACT

Mutations in the *BRCA2* (OMIM: #600185) gene have been linked to an elevated risk of breast cancer which has been demonstrated to be due to the inheritance of dominant susceptibility genes conferring a high risk of the disease. The contribution of *BRCA2* mutations to

breast cancer in Malaysian women remains to be elucidated. The purposes of this study are, first, to investigate the presence of sequence variants in the *BRCA2* gene and, second, to evaluate the sequence variants between simple sequence polymorphisms or pathogenic mutations. Germline *BRCA2* mutations were screened in 17 Malaysian high-risk breast cancer patients composed of familial, early-onset and male cancer groups. Clinical information and peripheral blood were obtained from fully-informed and consenting individuals. Genomic DNA was extracted from the peripheral blood and amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Direct DNA sequencing was subsequently performed on the PCR product to detect sequence variants. In the coding (10,257 bp) sequences of *BRCA2*, seven sequence variants were identified. Sequence variants were detected in 17 of 17 (100%) unrelated patients. One novel sequence variant, (2024T>C) was identified in 12 (71%) patients resulting in the amino acid change from Phenylalanine to Serine. Seven patients had a missense mutation in exon 10, (1342C>A) which has been previously detected in individuals from Central and Western Europe.

Another sequence variant in exon 10, (1593A>G) was detected in one patient. Two sequence variants (3624A>G and 4035T>C) were detected in exon 11. Another sequence variant, (203G>A) was detected in the 5' untranslated region of seven patients. In exon 14, one sequence variant, (7470A>G) was detected in three patients. These findings were consistent with the result formerly reported in Breast Cancer Information Core (BIC). DNA sequencing is still on going using a larger sample size with more interesting findings anticipated.