



**UNIVERSITI
MALAYA**

*Faculty of Languages
and Linguistics*

The “/bits and barts/ UM Linguists” is Faculty of Languages and Linguistics’ e-newsletter run by the FLL eBulletin Team. This e-newsletter, published on a quarterly basis, is created to keep affiliates and those interested up to date with news and research from the faculty.

Collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey

Dr. Omer Al Tun, Director of Yunus Emre Institute of the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey, visited the faculty on November 29, 2019 and met with the Dean, the Deputy Dean for Undergraduate Studies, and staff from the Arabic and Middle Eastern Languages Department. The discussion entailed a possibility of signing a MoA between FLL and Yunus Emre Institute and collaboration in offering a Turkish language elective course to UM students which introduces Turkish culture and traditions.



Dr. Omer Al Tun with the Dean and staff of FLL

Mobility Programme with Daejin University, South Korea

Daejin University mobility programme is an ISC signature programme that has been conducted since 2017. For 2019, the programme was run by 6 senior lecturers of the English Language Department. 20 students from Daejin University were here for 4 weeks of lessons and activities in the English Communication programme which included cultural visits.



Some of the participating students



A visit to the UM Art Gallery with Dr Ang Pei Soo

National Central University of Taiwan Visit



Delegates from Taiwan with FLL Staff

Delegates from the College of Hakka Studies at the National Central University, Taiwan, visited the faculty on October 29, 2019 to discuss possible collaborations with FLL. Dr Roshidah Hassan, the Deputy Dean of Undergraduate Studies, conducted the meeting in which possible academic exchanges and research collaborations were discussed.

International Translation Seminar II:

International Translation Seminar II: Translators in the Internet Economy was held on 15th November, 2019 at Dewan Mengkula. This was the second translation seminar organized by the translation lecturers (Dr. Krishnavanie Shunmugam, Dr. Looi Wai Ling and Dr. Soh Bee Kwee) of the Department of Malaysian languages and Applied Linguistics in collaboration with the Malaysian Translators Association. The seminar's objective was to highlight the use of technology in translation and to train participants to use SmartCat in translation work. There were more than 40 participants, both students and professionals. The main speakers/trainers were Mr. Ian Ng (CEO of AISA Digital, Singapore), Dr. Norwati Md.Yusuf (UKM), Mr. Afrizal Luthfi Lisdianta (Chief Coordinating Officer, SpeeQual, Indonesia) and Madam Shakirah Md. Zain (Malaysian freelance translator and copywriter).



The Dean of FLL with speakers and participants of the International Translation Seminar II

7th International Postgraduate Research Conference

On 30th November 2019, the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics hosted the 7th Postgraduate Research Conference at Universiti Malaya. The conference, which had about 150 participants and 74 paper presenters from within the country and abroad, was organised by a student-led committee, headed by Seyedmohamadreza Manzourolajdad (Mehrdad) under the guidance of its convener, Dr. Teoh Mei Lin. Invited speakers included Prof. Dr. Thang Siew Ming (HELP University), Assoc. Prof. Nor Fariza Mohd Nor (UKM), Prof. Dr. Stefanie Pillai (UM) and Dr. David Yoong (UM). The conference was mainly a platform for postgraduate-level researchers to present their work in linguistics and applied linguistics.



Registration of Participants



Welcome Speech by the Dean of FLL



Dr. Teoh Mei Lin (second from right) with the 7th PGRC 2019 Organizing Committee

Research Seminars and Workshops

Title : *From order to chaos and back: Language teaching in the 21st century*
Speaker : Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jonathan Newton (Victoria University of Wellington,
New Zealand)
Date : 8 October 2019



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jonathan Newton (seated, 3rd from left)

Title : *The Recontextualization of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) in Thai and Malaysian Language Policy*
Speaker : Dr. Kristof Savski (Prince of Songkla University, Thailand)
Date : 21 October 2019



Dr. Kristof Savski and Participants of the Workshop

Title : *Becoming Bilingual, Multilingual: Describing the Factors that Influence and Shape Language Socialization.*

Speaker : Dr. Anna Ghimenton (Université Lyon 2, France)

Date : 24 October 2019



Dr. Anna Ghimenton (seated, 3rd from right) with Participants from FLL

Title : *La voce del corpo* (The Voice of the Body) Workshop

Speaker : Luca Vullo (Italian actor, movie director and expert on Italian body language)

Date : 31 October 2019



Luca Vullo's workshop *La voce del corpo*

Title : Language Education Model in China and Malaysia
Speaker : Prof. Dr. Shuo Zhao (Northwestern Polytechnical University, China)
Date : 14 November 2019



The Dean (3rd from left) and Prof. Shuo Zhao (4th from left)

Title : Non-interventionism as Research in Community-based Critical Applied Sociolinguistics
Speaker : Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mela Sarkar (McGill University, Canada)
Date : 3 December 2019



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mela Sarkar delivering her talk

Dr. Wong Bags Another Award!

Congratulations to Dr. Wong Ngan Ling and her team for winning Second place in the Women's 4x400m race for 50-54 Category at the 21st Asia Masters Athletics Championships which was held from 2-7 December 2019 in Kuching, Sarawak. You make us proud!



Dr. Wong and her team proudly displaying their well-deserved medals

Modern Language Olympiad

15 students from Universiti Malaya participated in the Modern Language Olympiad (MLO) in Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Shah Alam, from 29th October to 2nd November 2019. This competition was the first language competition organized by the Academy of Language Studies (APB), UiTM Shah Alam. Competitions were conducted in three languages (English, Bahasa Melayu and Arabic) and in five categories (Strategic Storytelling, Versatile Presenting, Radio Drama, Idea Pitching, and Speech). Most of the UM students qualified for the semifinals. Congratulations to the following winners:

First Place: Radio Drama Online (Arabic)

1. Muhammad Irfan Bin Abdul Malek
3. Muhammad Al-Amin Bin Saifuddin
2. Muhammad Azhar Bin Azmi
4. Siti Nur Amni Binti Mohamed Juhari
5. Nurul Husna Binti Mohd Suhaimi

Third Place: Strategic Storytelling (Arabic)

Alfi Rahmi Yasmen



Malaysia's 100 Leading Graduate Employers Awards Night 2019



2nd year English programme student, Muhammad Adziim Bin Mohamed Khaidir, was invited to attend the Malaysia's 100 Leading Graduate Employers Awards Night 2019 at W Hotel on the 7th of November 2019. Adziim was an invited guest at the award for being in the panel of judges for the 'Career Centre of the Year (Private University)' category. Guest of honour was the Director General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, YB Datuk Ir Dr. Siti Hamisah Tapsir.

Muhammad Adziim with Datin Dr Hjh Raja Mazuin Raja Abdul Aziz of IPBA

National Language Day

The National Language Day is held annually by the Faculty of Languages & Linguistics. This year, it was held on 18 October 2019. Organized by the Malay Language Division in collaboration with all departments, programmes and the Universiti Malaya Student Union (UMSU), it aims to promote the national language. After a welcoming speech from the Dean, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jariah Mohd Jan, guests were entertained with poems, songs, a Malay traditional dress show, and a musical drama. These activities were presented by FLL students, including international students from Iraq, Korea and Germany.



Students in traditional Malay costume



Shahm Abdulnafa and Nur Ainlina reciting a poem

Old Skool Day



On the 18th of October 2019, the FLL Universiti Malaya Students' Union (UMSU) organised the very first Old Skool Day—an indoor games competition—in Mengkula Hall. Games included Scrabble, chess, caroms, darts, UNO, Monopoly, Jenga, Life, Congkak, Batu Seremban and musical chairs. The aim was to take participants—both students and staff—back to their care-free childhood days. At the end of the session, prizes were given out to the winners.

Fire Drill!

A fire drill was held in FLL on 4th November 2019 to ensure all know what to do in the event of a fire. The firefighters who gave the safety briefing were pleased with the way the faculty's Emergency Rescue team carried out the fire drill. They also demonstrated how to extinguish a fire and got some of the staff members and students to participate in extinguishing the fire. Congratulations to the FLL's Emergency Rescue Team!



Briefing by firefighters on safety and the different types of fire extinguishers



Demonstration on how to extinguish a fire



A student extinguishing a fire

Careers Day



The FLL Universiti Malaya Students Union (UMSU) of Faculty of Language and Linguistic organised a Careers Day in Mengkula Hall on the 15th of November 2019. Participating organizations included Translife Global (interpretation and translation services), Kidzania Kuala Lumpur (a role-play learning indoor theme park), and Ebright Malaysia (English tutoring and coaching). Mr Sivablan, Director of Uma Publication, spoke on employability in educational publishing and Ms Azreene Jasmine Khan, content manager of Butterkicap, on copywriting.

Meet-the-Author: Wong Ming Yook

A Meet-the-Author session was held on 22 November 2019 with Malaysian author, Miss Wong Ming Yook, in answer to the IR4.0 call to make courses relevant to what's "out there" in the "real world". The following are some comments from the students:

Hopefully there are more sessions like this.

I never thought sessions with an author would be this fun. I discovered another perspective to language.

We got to listen to a story read by the author herself. Amazing!



Group photo with Miss Wong Ming Yook



Miss Wong responding to queries from students during discussion

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