

This is the first issue of the 2015/2016 edition covering news throughout the first semester of the 2015/2016 academic year. We hope you enjoy our FASS newsletter!

EVENTS

FASS Seminar by Eminent Visiting Professor: Professor Adam Jaworski

On 25th November 2015, Eminent Visiting Professor to FASS, Professor Adam Jaworski gave a seminar entitled "Welcome: Frames for the linguistic landscape of global mobility".

Adopting Scollon and Scollon's geosemiotic approach to the study of emplaced discourse, and Goffman's (1974) frame analysis, Professor Jaworski described the meaning potential of 'welcome' signs from various tourist, commercial and institutional spaces.

Examining their code choice, multimodal design, emplacement, and materiality, he suggested that the 'welcome' signs are symptomatic of fleeting relationships typical of the global era or what Zygmunt Bauman (2000) refers to as 'liquid modernity'.



Stories through memories - 70 years of Friendship

Universiti Brunei Darussalam recently collaborated with the Australian High Commission along with James Cook University in the first grand opening exhibition of 'Stories through Memories – 70 years of friendship' (Kisah-Kisah Dalam Kenangan – 70 tahun persahabatan) which was held at the Royal Regalia, Bandar Seri Begawan from 10th to 30th June 2015. Due to overwhelming response, another sequel was made in the other three districts.

The exhibition is a tribute to those who are still alive and had been through the horrors during World War II and to celebrate the friendship between the people of Brunei Darussalam and Australia from 70 years ago when Australia helped free Brunei from Japanese occupation in 1945.

Dr. Maslin Jukim/Jukin of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences stated that this sequel exhibition would give a chance for people from other districts to see and hear the stories and experiences, shared by those people who were involved during the World War II, through multimedia. According to Dr. Maslin, the public will actually be able feel or at least relate to the experience of being in a situation during the Japanese occupation.



Dr. Maslin giving a tour to the Guest of Honour



H.E Mr. Todd Mercer, The Australian High Commissioner delivering the opening speech



"The exhibition also gives a closer vision of their various expressions, their tone of voice, laughter and sorrow that was stored in their memory boxes for 70 years" - Dr. Maslin



Banner pictures of the elders that were interviewed

Among those on display during the exhibition are photographs of historical events in Borneo taken from the archives of the Australian War Memorial and Brunei citizens' living experiences through World War II, which were filmed and recorded by Australian academic Dr. Janet Marles and a team of historians and folklorists as well as UBD students led by Dr Maslin bin Jukim / Jukin and Dr. Frank Dhont of the Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

Stage Drama of “Santun Bahasa”

On 10 October 2015, the theatrical production of “Santun Bahasa” was organised as part of the AB-1402 module (Santun Bahasa) offered by the Department of Malay Language and Literature of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

The play is a part of the requirement for the module, which is jointly facilitated by Dr. Hjh. Dyg. Fatimah binti Hj. Awg. Chuchu and Najib Noorashid.



This 'breadth' module is taken by students from various programmes and across faculties, and it has been a favourite among them as it involves both theory and practice.

In addition, the play is also intended to offer a comprehension assessment on subjects and issues that they are taught in the classroom.



Throughout the process, it is hoped that the students develop a sense of humanity as well as intellectual achievement. It inculcates kindness in words and attitudes and simultaneously preserves this synergy for when they successfully graduate from the university. A total of 25 students accomplished the theatre performance.



The 7th Seminar on Regional Education

The 7th International Seminar on Regional Education was held at Pekanbaru City, Riau, Indonesia from 5th till 7th November 2015 with the theme: Educational Community and Cultural Diversity. This event was a collaboration between the Faculty of Education and Teacher Training, University of Riau and Faculty of Education, The National University of Malaysia (UKM).

Associate Professor Dr. Haji Awang Asbol Bin Haji Mail was invited as the keynote speaker at this event. His keynote speech was on “Dasar-dasar Pendidikan Negara Brunei Darussalam: Perubahan dan Masalah” (The Basics of Education in Negara Brunei Darussalam: Changes and Challenges).



Some of the participants with Datuk Abdul Razak Ahmad from The National University of Malaysia ((3rd from R) and the Keynote Speaker from Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Associate Professor Dr. Haji Awang Asbol Bin Haji Mail (1st from R), Associate Professor Dr.

Two other participants from Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), presented at this seminar too. They are Associate Professor Dr. Kamsiah Binte Abdullah and PhD Malay Language and Linguistics candidate, Fawziyah Binte Ali. Associate Professor Dr. Kamsiah Binte Abdullah presented on “Melayu Islam patut jadi Tribahasawan: Matlamat Dasar-dasar Bahasa akan Datang” (Malay/Muslims should be Trilingual: The Objective of the Basics of Language in the Future). Fawziyah presented in English on “Hook onto the Figure (A Strategy to the Teaching of Narrative Essay Writing)”.

There were 139 papers presented on existing educational practices. The seminar was a comprehensive professional development resource that could be employed by teachers, some of whom were continuing their studies at these higher institutions of learning. The seminar was indeed a success as it was tailored to students and lecturers who are passionate about teaching. We look forward to the next seminar in 2017 which the organising committee has suggested will be held in Brunei Darussalam.

18th English in South-East Asia (ESEA) Conference

From 16 till 17 November 2015, FASS organised the 18th English in South-East Asia conference. All sessions were held in the Chancellor Hall at UBD.

There were 63 papers by speakers from places such as Australia, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Macao, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, in addition to the papers presented by speakers from Brunei.

The keynote speakers were Professor David Deterding (UBD), Professor Adam Jaworski (Hong Kong University) and Professor Andy Kirkpatrick (Griffith University).

David Deterding's talk was entitled 'Intelligibility in SE Asian English'. He discussed the importance of good pronunciation in the region to avoid misunderstandings occurring, but he stressed that there is no need to imitate a speaker from Britain in order to be highly intelligible.

In his keynote presentation, Adam Jaworski talked about pride, profit and prejudice in the linguistic landscape of Hong Kong, particularly how mock Cantonese as well as Hong Kong English are used in tourism discourse.

Languages continue to function as traditional symbols of ethno-national identity, yet at the same time they are employed as commodified indexes of local places, people, practices and products. This leads to some interesting innovative uses of English and Cantonese in Hong Kong.



The keynote speakers and invited guests, after the opening ceremony



The audience during the opening ceremony



Professor David Deterding



Professor Adam Jaworski



Professor Andy Kirkpatrick

Andy Kirkpatrick's talk dealt with the role of English as a lingua franca in Southeast Asia, especially as it is promoted as the sole working language of ASEAN

He also talked about education in the region, including the threat to local languages from the adoption of English as a medium of instruction in primary school, and he discussed pedagogical policies that might be pursued in order to maintain indigenous minority languages.

STUDENT NEWS

Community Outreach Programme with Brunei's Council on Social Welfare

FASS students who were doing their Community Outreach Programme (COP) with Brunei's Council on Social Welfare (Majlis Kesejahteraan Masyarakat or MKM) were involved in a range of activities from October to December 2015. Their activities were jointly-supervised by Dr Hjh Fatimah Hj Awang Chuchu of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Hajah Salmah Haji Mohd Noor, of the Institute of Health Sciences.

The activities included holding a garage sale at Tungku Beach, proceeds from which went to the abovementioned council. The students also attended a legal and advisory clinic and had the opportunity to observe two cases – a legal law case and a social case – handled pro bono by a local law firm with the assistance of MKM. They also organized a convention on the Rights of the Child on 6th November 2015. In addition, the COP students also conducted a workshop entitled 'Bengkel Kemiskinan bukan satu halangan untuk kejayaan' ('Poverty is not a hindrance to success') for secondary school children.



The Garage Sale at Tungku Beach



Attending a legal and advisory clinic



At the Convention of the Rights of the Child



The workshop for students

Budding artist from FASS

Siti Nurbazilah Zulkifli has always had a passion for art but being a science student from form 1 until form 5, she was only able to study art when she decided to switch to the arts stream in her sixth form. Since then she has participated in various competitions, both locally and internationally. She has also joined various expos to showcase and sell her artwork and has been quite successful in selling her paintings.



Bazilah at the Barakafestival expo at Tarindak D'seni



Creating a wall art for Nostalgic Café at Citisquare



Consumer Fair 2016 at the International Convention Centre

Bazilah is now an Arts & Creative Technology student at FASS and the modules she takes at the faculty has allowed her to develop her skills and hone her passion for art further. She describes how her degree programme at FASS acquainted her with digital art and this newfound knowledge has helped her venture into new techniques of creating art. Bazilah also explains how one of the modules she is taking has given her the knowledge on the basics of business in relation to designing which has proven helpful for her current art business.



Brunei Vendeur Festival 2015

Links to our faculty



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