



LITERATURE EXPERT DELIVERS PROFESSORIAL LECTURE

Professor Ampuan Dr. Haji Brahim is a prolific academic and scholar who has made significant contributions to the field of Malay Literature throughout his career. To date, Professor Ampuan Dr. has authored over a hundred publications, including five academic books and five creative works.

In his professorial lecture entitled "*Manuskrip Lama Brunei: Keberadaan dan Kehebatannya*" (Classical Manuscripts of Brunei: Existence and Significance), Professor Ampuan Dr. drew attention to Negara Brunei Darussalam as a sovereign nation with a rich historical legacy. The sultanate boasts a treasure trove of classical literary manuscripts that possess unique and unparalleled attributes.

According to Professor Ampuan Dr., some of the published classics of Brunei, such as *Syair Awang Semaun*, *Hukum Kanun*, *Silsilah Raja Brunei*, and *Syair Rajang*, showcase the grandeur of Bruneian



*Professor
Ampuan Dr Haji Brahim
Bin Ampuan Haji Tengah*

These classical works serve as poignant testimonies to Brunei's political prowess, unwavering stability, heroic Malay heritage, and the rich tapestry of its material and non-material culture. Professor Ampuan Dr. concluded his lecture by inviting further exploration and appreciation of Negara Brunei Darussalam's literary treasures. The appreciation of these classical Bruneian manuscripts not only contributes to but also further enriches the landscape of Malay literature as a whole.

Throughout his academic journey in UBD, Professor Ampuan Dr. has served as the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Director of the Academy of Brunei Studies (APB), Director of the Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddien Centre for Islamic Studies (SOASCIS), and Acting Assistant Vice Chancellor, as well as Dean of Students.

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Professor Ampuan Dr.'s exemplary service has been recognized with state decorations, including Pingat Jubli Perak Sempena 25 Tahun Menaiki Takhta, Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia, Darjah Ke-empat (PSB), Pingat Kerja Lama (PKL), Pingat Jasa Kebaktian (PJK), Darjah Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei, Yang Amat Mulia Darjah Ke-tiga (SMB), and Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Ketiga (SNB).

Professor Ampuan Dr. was bestowed the National Excellent Teacher Award (2015) and the National Meritorious Teacher's Award (2020) by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Negara Brunei Darussalam.

In 2005, Professor Ampuan Dr. received the Southeast Asia Writers Award, and he was named the national Malay Language Ambassador during the Malay Language Month Celebration 2023.

FASS WELCOMES EMINENT VISITING PROFESSOR



Associate Professor Dr. Juan Pablo Mora Gutierrez is an associate professor at the University of Seville, Spain, whose lines of investigation include Teaching Innovation, Contrastive Grammar, Sociolinguistics of Sign Languages, and Teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language.

During his visit, Associate Professor Dr. Gutierrez delivered guest lectures to undergraduate students enrolled in two modules offered by the English Studies program: Intercultural Communication and Language in Society. He also presented a seminar at the FASS Seminar Series titled “Campeonas O Campeones”: Linguistic Issues Related to The Global Scandal That Has Shaken Spanish Football and Society.

Associate Professor Dr. Gutierrez also conducted a workshop for the Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) on Learning and Teaching at the University Level using Challenge-Based Learning with Active Learning Methodologies such as Service Learning, Design Thinking (ECO), and Collaborative Learning.



Associate Professor Dr. Gutierrez has been a visiting professor at the University of Iceland and a visiting researcher at the University of California, Berkeley, Northwestern University, and the University of Chicago.

His expertise is highly sought after, and his humble demeanor makes him approachable to both staff and students alike.

We hope to welcome Associate Professor Dr. Gutierrez again in the future.

FASS STAFF AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT ENGAGING WITH VIETNAM 14

Dr. Van Dao Truong, an Assistant Professor in Geography, Environment, and Development, left a lasting impression at the Engaging with Vietnam 14 conference held in Hue city from the 1st to 6th of August 2023.

The conference, themed "Living with heritage, (re)creating heritage," provided a platform for scholars and experts to delve into the complexities of heritage preservation and tourism.



In his keynote address, Dr. Truong tackled the concept of heritage tourism, expanding the traditional understanding. He emphasized that heritage should not solely revolve around grand natural and cultural sites recognized by international bodies and governments. Instead, he advocated for a broader definition, one that encompasses the everyday lives of ordinary people.

Dr. Truong's insight shed light on the importance of local communities in owning and actively participating in heritage tourism endeavors, empowering them to preserve and promote their cultural legacies.

FASS ACADEMIC AT ASEAN-JAPAN 50TH YEAR FRIENDSHIP CELEBRATION



In honor of the fifty-year milestone in ASEAN-Japan relations, the Japan Foundation and BRIN Indonesia co-organized the "Mobilities among ASEAN and Japan: Its Future and How We Shape It" symposium on 25th and 26th July 2023, in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Dr. Siti Mazidah Haji Mohamad, Assistant Professor in Geography, Environment and Development, was invited to present her research on TikTok's cultural mobility.

Her paper, "*Mobilities of Culture on TikTok*," explored youth culture dynamics, including cringe culture and class consciousness, enhancing our understanding of digital culture.

Dr. Siti Mazidah's participation highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary research in shaping the future of mobility in the ASEAN-Japan region. This symposium served not only as a celebration of friendship but also as a platform for academic collaboration, envisioning a future strengthened by cultural exchange and cooperation.

FASS STAFF ATTENDS INSTITUTE OF WORLD LITERATURE



FASS Lecturer in English Studies, Dr. Sarah Ghazali, attended the Institute of World Literature (IWL), a four-week program at Harvard University from 5th to 27th July 2023.

Dr. Sarah participated in daily seminars on “Globalisation and its Discontents” by David Damrosch (Harvard) and “World Literature and the Haunts of Comparison” by Shaden Tageldin (University of Minnesota).

The IWL featured keynote lectures by David Damrosch and Homi Bhabha (Harvard), as well as weekly guest lectures by Simon Gikandi (Princeton) and Emily Greenwood (Harvard). Panels with prominent figures in world literature were also included.

Dr. Sarah had the opportunity to present her ongoing research project titled “The University in the Millennial Novel,” examining the portrayal of universities in this genre and exploring its contemporary significance and possible intersections with the campus novel genre.

13th IWL aimed to explore the study of literature in a globalizing world.

FASS ACADEMIC SHARES EXPERTISE AT ASIAN UNDERGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM



Photo credit:
Asian Undergraduate
Symposium

Mr. Izni Azrein bin Noor Azalie, from the Geography, Environment, and Development program, played a pivotal role as one of the distinguished speakers at the prestigious Asian Undergraduate Symposium 2023.

Mr. Izni Azrein brought his wealth of expertise to the forefront, focusing on topics concerning heritage and culture. Engaging actively with the audience, he addressed inquiries ranging from conservation efforts to the adaptability of communities in the face of change. The session was chaired by Associate Professor Dr. Loy Hui Chieh from National University Singapore (NUS).

The event, held in Singapore, was a collaborative effort between the esteemed NUS and the Temasek Foundation. Themed “Interconnected Communities,” the symposium attracted more than 150 audience from various corners of the ASEAN region.

FASS STAFF AT THE CHINA-ASEAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL FORUM



Dr. Hannah Ho, an Assistant Professor in English Studies, participated in a forum on "Language and Cross-Cultural Communication in the Digital Era" and "Language and Cultural Exchanges under the Belt and Road Initiative" at the China-ASEAN Language and Cultural Forum in Guizhou, China.

Discussions spanned from language preservation and the impact of globalization on cultural dissemination to post-COVID language teaching challenges. In her session, Dr. Hannah emphasized the role of language in socioeconomic development and its integration with artificial intelligence.

The session was chaired by Professor Dr. Choong Chee Keong, Vice President of Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia. The forum was attended by over 70 guests, including officials, scholars, and ASEAN ambassadors.

The forum, part of the 2021 China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week, fostered collaboration and knowledge exchange, reaffirming regional commitment to cultural enrichment.

MALAYSIA-BRUNEI FORUM 2023



The Malaysia-Brunei Forum, hosted by FASS UM and FASS UBD, convened on 13th and 14th December 2023, focusing on "Resilience and Transformation" in Southeast Asia. Academics, researchers and students from both universities, engaged in diverse presentations and discussions.

Keynote speaker Professor Emeritus Dr. Ranjit Singh a/l Darshan Singh delivered an insightful speech on the transformation of Southeast Asia over the decades. Attendees were treated to engaging discussions across various panels, covering topics ranging from sustainability poetics to multilingual translanguaged social media discourse.

Notable presentations included discussions on the heritagization of culture, negotiation of identities, and the role of the state, corporations, and local communities in sustainable development. Participants had the opportunity to network during a welcoming dinner and explore the rich cultural heritage of Universiti Malaya, including a visit to the Museum of Asian Art.

The Malaysia-Brunei Forum serves as a platform for intellectual exchange and collaboration, fostering deeper understanding and innovative approaches to addressing the challenges facing Southeast Asia.

FASS CELEBRATES EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS AT DEAN'S LIST AWARD CEREMONY



FASS recently held the Dean's List Award Ceremony to recognize the high-achieving students of Semester 2, 2022/23. These outstanding individuals were presented with certificates and mementos to acknowledge their exceptional academic accomplishments.

In her speech, the Dean of FASS, Dr. Kathrina Hj Mohd Daud, expressed her congratulations and encouraged students to continuously strive for academic excellence while enjoying their time at the university.

This recognition is aimed to motivate FASS students to make concerted efforts toward achieving academic excellence.

FASS GENERATES SIGNIFICANT BUZZ AT DRACULA FILM FESTIVAL



Séance (2023) won the Dracula Digital 2023 Award



A Journey to Brasov (2022, dir. Yong Liu)

Three FASS students, Azhar Khir, Aqil Kamarudin, and Shukri Sufri, won the Dracula Digital 2023 Competition at the 11th Dracula Film Festival in Brasov, Romania, held from 25th to 29th October.

Their film, "Séance," portrays a young man's attempt to communicate with his deceased father.

The jury president of the Dracula Digital 2023 Competition, Mr. Eugen Neagu, praised its cinematic elements and storytelling, unanimously securing its victory.

This marks the second win for FASS DCI students at the competition, earning them a winning cash prize of €500.

Dracula Digital requires contestants to create a three-minute short film within three days using only a smartphone camera.

FASS lecturer at DCI program, Dr. Yong Liu revealed the competition's themes, following a screening of his documentary "A Journey to Brasov" (2022), which highlights UBD's collaboration with Romanian students.

UBD SHORT FILM WINS AWARD AT BRUNEI CONTENT FESTIVAL

The Brunei Content Festival (BCF) 2023 commenced in July with a nationwide call for creative submissions, concluding with an Awards Night on 12th September 2023, at Dewan Serambi Suluh, Tarindak D'Seni.

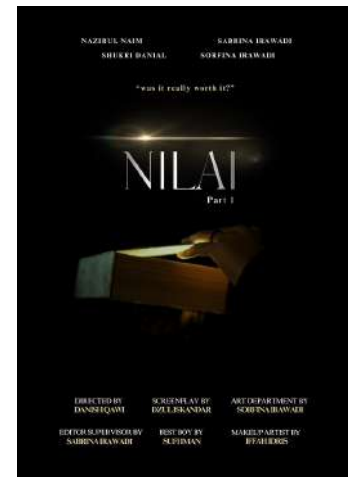
UBD students showcased six short films among the 98 official submissions to the festival.

Nilai Part 1 (7 min, 2023), co-directed by Danish Qawi Haszahaidi and Dzul Iskandar Shambol, won the Best Short Film Award under the Institute of Higher Learning Open Category, earning a BND2,000 cash prize.

Nilai Part 1 was a coursework assignment submitted to AX-2309 Digital Photography and Videography module, screened at the 5th UBD-FASS Term Screening in April 2023.

All crew members are current DCI undergraduate students: Haji Muhammad Danish Qawi bin Haji Haszahaidi, Mohammad Dzul Iskandar bin Shamsol, Sorfina binti Ahmad Irawadi, Sabrina binti Ahmad Irawadi, and Nur Iffah Adilah binti Haji Idris.

The BCF, organized by AITI with RTBGo and Progresif Media's support, aims to recognize local content creators and encourage artistic innovation in local content creation.



FASS ORGANISES 6TH PRISM UBD SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



The 6th Edition of the PRISM UBD Short Film Festival began with an Opening Screening on 16th November 2023. As an annual event, PRISM showcases short films by students from ASEAN higher learning institutions.

Designated as an official ASEAN University Network on Culture and the Arts (AUN-CA) event since 2022, PRISM received over 50 submissions from 10 institutions in Brunei, Malaysia, and Thailand. This year's theme, "Crisis and Opportunity," saw a record of 29 student films nominated in five categories.

The Award Ceremony was held on 7th November 2023. Notably, this edition introduced a Social Media Content competition focusing on Mental Health, receiving 17 submissions - a competitive category with a significant portion of total entries. The participating institutions included Mahakarya Institute of the Arts Asia, Politeknik Brunei, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali, Bangkok University, Srinakharinwirot University, and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang.



Best Social Media Content Award

THE SOUTHEAST ASIA: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL



The Southeast Asia: A Multidisciplinary Journal (SEAMJ), published by Emerald, completes its inaugural year with Volume 23 available online. Issues from 2020-2023 are also accessible on the journal's [homepage](https://seamj.ubd.edu.bn).

Efforts to boost submissions included promotions at FASS events by Chief Editor Dr. Ahsan Ullah. Special issues on "Governing Complex Disasters" and "Tourism Trends" are open for submissions, slated for 2024.

The SEAMJ is published on a tri-annual basis and is a platinum open-access journal.

Manuscripts can be submitted through ScholarOne. For more details on the SEAMJ, please visit its website on the Emerald Publishing website or email the SEAMJ at seamj@ubd.edu.bn.

RECENT TITLES IN

THE SOUTHEAST ASIA: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL

The Rohingya refugee crisis: political and humanitarian perspectives

Kabir Md Shahin
School of Law, Raffles University Neerana, Neerana, India, and
Moyenul Hasan
Sonargaon University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

USA–Myanmar relations: democratization and beyond

Mohamad Zreik
Independent Researcher, Zahle, Lebanon

Being migrant or nomadic or refugee in the Nusantara

Omer Faruk Cingir and Thirunavukarasu Subramaniam
Department of Southeast Asian studies, University of Malaya,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Single mothers: financial challenges and experiences in Brunei-Muara district

Azzie Hilman Affandy
Department of Geography, Environment and Development,
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam,
Gadong, Brunei Darussalam

The challenges and coping of Rohingya refugees: a comparative study of registered and nonregistered Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

Neegar Sultana, Shahana Sultana, Rafiq Saha and Md. Monirul Alam
Department of Geography and Environment, Jagannath University,
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Rasa indung bini: an exploratory research into Bruneian sense of motherhood

Rumana Sultana
Department of Sociology, Lahmatia Mofila College, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Navigating climate change: migration challenges in Southeast Asia

Pravati Saha
Department of Economics, North South University,
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Colonising the penal body: transit of the convicts from Bengal to the Malay Peninsula

Gazi Mizanur Rahman
Department of English and Humanities, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Digital economy in Southeast Asia: challenges, opportunities and future development

Huong Ha and C.K. Peter Chuah
Singapore University of Social Sciences, Singapore, Singapore

The classes and class struggles contents of the Bangsamoro question

Jacinto Rebadulla Valila Jr
Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines

Functions of student code-switching in a Bruneian classroom

Hafizah Hamdan
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam,
Gadong, Brunei Darussalam

Inequality and prosperity challenges in Bangladesh: experiences from Singapore

Jannatul Ferdous
Department of Public Administration, Comilla University, Comilla, Bangladesh

The series features seminars by eminent visiting professors, guests, and collaborators of the faculty as well as the university, enriching the academic discourse and fostering collaborative partnerships.

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SEMINAR SERIES

19 OCT 2023 | 1.00-2.00PM
Nona Lee GUEH Library Learning Common

**CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSIONS OF MALAYNESS IN
THIAMALAY FARE SOUTH**

DR. CHH. NIRMALA RAJUL, GOVTART NERISSERU F.002

Thiamalay Fare South has experienced extensive social change in the last two decades. Specifically, this topic is open to public discussion of ethnic identities has expanded markedly. This trend has resulted in increasing number of Thiamalay people to participate in collective public expressions of their ethnic identity in recent times. These expressions are both socially and culturally. Using data gathered over two decades of ethnographic research, I connect this trend to changes in the world and activities of a contemporary artist. Ultimately, an array of youth resistance in this session.

THE SPEAKER

Nirmala Rajul is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, UGUE. He is interested in human connections, the anthropology of the Malay Peninsula World, and the anthropology of society and contemporary art of Southeast Asia.


Nona Lee GUEH

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FASS STUDENTS PRESENTS AT 6TH CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS



Two postgraduate students in Malay Linguistics Program, Elmy Maswandi bin Suhaimi and Zulfadzlee bin Zulkiflee, attended the 6th Conference on Human Rights at Universitas Gadjah Mada from 24th to 26th October 2023.

At the conference, both students presented on community marginalization and ethnic migration in Brunei. Elmy Maswandi discussed “Uncovering Social Exclusion Phenomena of Former Drug Users in Brunei,” highlighting their marginalization through discourse. Meanwhile, Zulfadzlee Zulkiflee presented on “Tracing the Migration Routes of Belait Community in Brunei,” focusing on the impact of Belait migration on minority languages.



Their research contributes to social justice and linguistic minority rights in Brunei. The conference, organized by various institutions, provided invaluable opportunities for professional development, including broadening perspectives, networking with international peers, cultural exchange, and academic contributions.

The conference theme was “Indigeneity and Human Rights in Asia and the Pacific: Towards a Just Society: Challenges and Opportunities.”

FASS STUDENT PARTICIPATES PHILOLOGY WORKSHOP AND TRAINING



A postgraduate student in Malay Linguistics Program, Seri Nur Wafiqah Seri Asnola, participated in a Philological Workshop and Training organized by the Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (BKISSHB).

Facilitated by her supervisor, Dr. Siti Badriyah Yusof, the workshop aimed to raise awareness about the significance of studying manuscripts and foster collaboration among researchers.



Dyg Wafiqah found the workshop exceptionally beneficial, expanding her knowledge and providing skills in manuscript conservation and transliteration.

Led by Prof. Dr. Ampuan Hj Brahim bin Ampuan Hj Tengah from Universiti Brunei Darussalam, the three-day workshop also featured a briefing by Dyg Hajah Siti Norhayatty binti Haji Morni, the Curator of Conservation and Repair, on manuscript preservation. The event laid the groundwork for collaboration and knowledge sharing within the scholarly community.

PENA SARJANA HOLDS ACADEMIC WRITING SKILLS WORKSHOP



Pena Sarjana, led by master's candidates in the Malay Linguistics Program (PBML), held a workshop focusing on academic writing skills. At the workshop, participants engaged in exercises on coherence and cohesion in writing where various software tools such as VOSviewer, Publish or Perish (PoP), and Mendeley were introduced. Facilitated by PBML lecturers and select master candidates, the training equipped participants with practical skills essential for academic pursuits.

The workshop fosters exposure and knowledge-sharing, aiding PBML postgraduates in enhancing their scientific writing skills. This aligns with ongoing development and technological advancements in academia, ensuring participants remain updated with relevant tools and methodologies. A notable aspect is the encouragement to produce papers for publication, fostering a culture of scholarly output and knowledge dissemination within PBML and FASS.

Pena Sarjana sessions occur fortnightly on Wednesdays throughout the first semester of 2023/2024.

FASS WRITING RETREATS



The fourth FASS Writing Retreat, held on 31st August 2023, aimed to prep graduate students for conferences and publications. Dr. Sarah Ghazali stressed conference networking, while Dr. Ishamina Athirah Muntassir focused on journal article publication.

Its success led to the fifth edition on 26th September 2023, with AP Dr. Ahsan Ullah and Dr. Maria Carinnes Alejandria leading workshops on journal publications and digital deep dives.



The final session on 30th October 2023, saw 17 students from various backgrounds at the Academic Writing Retreat.

Organized by FASS, it offered a conducive environment for scholarly writing, featuring structured sessions and workshops. Participants celebrated their achievements, with many making significant progress on their work.



The Writing Retreat Planning Committee, consisting of Awais Rubbani, Carlo Soberano, Karizza Bravo-Sotelo, Mohammad Azim Arbabi, Shafinur Nahar and Silas Emovwodo, is already planning to expand the program to accommodate more graduate students in the future, aiming to further enhance their academic writing skills.

KELAB RAKIS AND KELAB PENDETA BAHASA SHINE AT PESTA KONVO 2023

Kelab Rampun Kesenian Insan Sastera (RAKIS) and Kelab Pendeta Bahasa, were honored to perform at the opening ceremony of Pesta Konvo 2023.

The performance, titled "Riuh-riuh Konvo," depicted the behind-the-scenes of the full rehearsal for convocation. It included various acts such as martial arts (*silat*), contemporary dance, and singing, all of which were positively received by the audience. A poem (*puisi*) composed by Cikgu Mohammed Zefri Ariff was recited at the event by an undergraduate student, Hajib Sarhan.

The performances were supervised by Dr. Ena Herni Wasli and Dr. Maslin Jukim from the Malay Literature program.

Other FASS contributions to Pesta Konvo included the exhibition of works previously showcased at UBD Spectrum in September 2023.



PENDETA BAHASA ENGAGEMENTS SPARK ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSES



On 16th and 17th September 2023, lecturers and students from the Malay Linguistics Program (PBML) visited Alai Gayoh Anak Pulau Homestay in Bukit Udal, Tutong, to experience culture and tradition of the Dusun tribe culture.

On 30th September 2023, a bowling competition promoted camaraderie among PBML students and lecturers. Meanwhile, on 28th October 2023, a ceremony at Hotel Badiah was held to celebrate PBML graduates and Kelab Pendeta Bahasa members, highlighting their academic and social contributions.

The organized activities fostered stronger bonds, enhanced cultural understanding, and promoted positive relationships within the program.

LINKS TO OUR FACULTY

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