

GLOBAL EXPOSURE

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The symposium provided opportunities for international exposure.

GOING through a postgraduate programme is no easy feat. It can, most of the times, be a lonely journey. One has to persevere and endure multiple failures even, be able to pause, step back a step or two, and move forward.

The (vicious) cycle may be continuous throughout the postgraduate study. What each postgraduate student should be aware of is that they do not have to face these challenges alone; for there are avenues where these burdens can be shared, thus lightened.

In light of this, Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology (UniKL MICET) recently organised the Postgraduate Symposium on Green Engineering and Technology 2016 (PGSET).

The first ever home-grown postgraduate symposium serves as a platform for postgraduate students to present their research and at the same time, initiate critical discussions about concept, materials, media and approaches with a broad scholarly audience.

Participants were presented with the opportunity to share and generate ideas related to recent developments and new discoveries in Green Engineering and Technology.

With the aim of enhancing collaboration and sharing among postgraduate candidates from institutions in Malaysia and other countries, the symposium was organised to spark participants' creativity and innovation in research and towering personality activities as well as improve their visibility and their research projects on a larger scale and celebrate their achievements.

The keynote speech titled "Excellence in Postgraduate Studies" was given by Prof Dr Mohd Azizan Mohd Noor, a professor in Biotechnology at UniKL MICET. A total of 41 papers were presented by postgraduate students from Malaysia, Pakistan, India, Indonesia and Thailand comprising 30 oral and 11 poster presentations.

The papers presented covered science, engineering and technology as diverse as civil, chemical, mechanical, electrical and manufacturing fields. It deployed methodologies that were attentive to questions of authorship, materiality, performance, reception, and interpretation.

Issues in Green Technology related to scientific, technical, economic, and ecological were covered in order to push the green-based economy in coherent with new developments.

Awards were given to the Best Oral Presenters and Best Poster Presenters. Winners of the Best Oral Presenters are Lennevey Kanidi from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak on Study on Acid Pre-treatment of Sago Pith Waste for Glucose Production, Shafferina Dayana Sharuddin from Universiti Malaya on Liquid Fuel Production from Pyrolysis of Plastic Wastes as Promising Future Alternative Energy Resources, and Muhammad Syafi q Ridhwan Mohd Nasir from UniKL MICET on Effects of Steam Pre-treatment on Banana Stem Binderless Particleboard Properties.

Winners of the Best Poster Presenters are Mohd Hadi Mohd Hasan from UniKL MICET on Effects of Partial Replacement of Carbon Black with Bio-Carbon on the Physical, Mechanical, and Thermal Properties of Filled SMRL Vulcanisate, Nor Azlina Ramlee from UniKL MICET on Determination of Mechanical Properties of Oil Palm Frond (OPF) Fibre Cement Board, and Azliana Che Amat from UniKL MICET on Optimisation of Xanthone in Water-Based Extraction from Fresh Mangosteen (*Garcinia Mangostana*) by Using Ultrasonic Technique.

The symposium was a success, especially in terms of providing opportunities for international exposure, research collaborations, knowledge sharing, new ideas and concept gaining, and also research network advancement.