

Mohd Amirul Kasyful Nur bin Zulkifli

From: Unit Komunikasi Korporat
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Subject: Exploring Prospective Collaboration With Universities In The Kansai Region, Japan



Unit Komunikasi Korporat
CORPORATE COMMUNICATION UNIT
Universiti Utara Malaysia



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"UUM : UNIVERSITI PENGURUSAN TERKEMUKA"
(THE EMINENT MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY)

By: School of Computing

**EXPLORING PROSPECTIVE COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITIES IN THE KANSAI REGION,
JAPAN**



UUM ONLINE: Researchers from the LRGS: Flood management research group of Universiti Utara Malaysia and Universiti Teknologi MARA, attended the International Recovery Platform (IRP) forum in Kobe on 24 January 2017.

This year's forum focused on sharing knowledge and understanding pertaining to the recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction strategies and actions in terms of health, in the context of "build back better" through the sharing of country experiences.

The group of researchers was led by Prof. Dr. Ku Ruhana Ku Mahamud, who is also the LRGS programme leader.

The other members in the group were Prof. Dr. Zaini Abd Karim, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wan Mohd Naim Wan Mohd, Mr. Fader Abdullah, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakti Hasan Basri, Dr. Ahmad Suki Che Mohamed Arif, and Dr. Rizauddin Saian.

Apart from attending the forum as stakeholders, the researchers also visited a number of universities in the Kansai region, namely, Osaka University, Kansai University, the Takatsuki Muse campus and Kyoto University, and the Uji campus.

The main objective of the visits was to explore the possibility of forging research partnerships in the area of disaster management - focusing on data management, mobile application, and the economics and social issues of helpers and victims - which would lend themselves to winning international research grants.

On their visit to Osaka University, the researchers had the privilege of meeting with Prof. Dr. Stefano Tsukamoto, who shared his innovation for managing disaster using CARED, a mobile application for a Multilingual Wide View Disaster Information Prediction System.

The researchers at Kansai University, led by Prof. Dr. Shingo Nagamatsu, showed a keen interest in collaborating on new research and expressed their enthusiasm for a reciprocal visit to UUM in March 2017 for further discussions.

At their meeting with Prof. Dr. Kaoru Takara of Kyoto University, the researchers were given fresh insights on the usage of Internet of Things in managing disaster.

It is hoped that, on the whole, the visit will bear fruit in terms of fostering collaborative research with Japanese universities and generating research ideas and opportunities for honing expertise pertaining to managing disaster in Malaysia.

DARIPADA:
UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
04-928 3048/3049/3052/3061
04-928 3053
ukkuum@uum.edu.my
Universiti Utara Malaysia (Official FB)



Universiti Utara Malaysia Official Website <http://www.uum.edu.my>

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