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Universiti Utara Malaysia



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

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ICSO TL2017 – A PLATFORM FOR SHARING EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES



UUM ONLINE: A total of 48 participants from six countries, including Malaysia, participated in the 2017 International Conference on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ICSoTL2017) organised by the School of Education and Modern Languages (SEML), Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), at EDC Hotels & Resorts recently.

The two-day inaugural event provided a platform for researchers from various academic backgrounds to share, discuss, and exchange views and experiences on issues related to teaching and learning.

Apart from this, ICSoTL2017 also showcased a variety of innovative, creative and effective strategies and approaches to teaching and learning whilst, at the same time, taking the commendable initiative of building a network of local and international experts in the field of teaching and learning.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof Dato' Seri Dr Mohamed Mustafa Ishak, said that rapid and widespread changes had rendered the current landscape of higher education volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous.

"Higher education today is operating in a VUCA world, which, according to Bennet and Lemoine (2014) in their interesting article published in the Harvard Business Review, is a world that is characterised by Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity.

"The theme of ICSoTL2017, 'Teaching that Makes Learning Happen,' is a timely reminder for us to respond accordingly by way of assuming the responsibility of adapting the teaching-learning process to the exigencies of a VUCA environment that has become increasingly globalised, automatised, virtualised, networked, and flexible.

"Hence, I fervently hope that this intellectual discourse on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning will serve as an invaluable platform for promoting a greater understanding of not only the pressing issues in the scholarship of teaching, but also the need for the use of a more informed problem-solving approach in our teaching," he said in his opening speech.

The Vice-Chancellor added further that UUM would continue to stimulate greater academic cooperation to help enhance the development of an academic culture and scholarship not only at UUM, but also among international peers from around the world.

Besides Malaysia, the other countries that were represented at ICSoTL2017 were Indonesia, Singapore, the United States, Hong Kong, and New Zealand.

The Conference encompassed 10 parallel sessions, a poster presentation session, and two keynote address sessions. The keynote speakers were Prof Dr Tony Harland, from the University of Otago, New Zealand, and Prof Dr Nurahimah Mohd Yusoff, from the SEML, UUM.

Professor Harland's keynote address was entitled "Professional Learning for Academics and the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning" while that of Prof Nurahimah was entitled "Developing the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Community of Practice."

Also present were the Dean of the SEML, Assoc. Prof Dr Yahya Don, and senior UUM officials.

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