



OCEAN OF DISCOVERIES FOR GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY

# UMT NEWSLETTER

*Special Edition* 2025



In 2025, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) achieved significant milestones, marked by a strong improvement in international rankings including entry into the QS World University Rankings 2026 (801–850 band) and a rise to 160th position in QS Asia, reflecting growing global recognition and academic strength. The university excelled in research and innovation with its scholars recognised among the world's top 2% scientists, notable research awards, biodiversity discoveries, and impactful studies including Antarctic-related research, while also expanding industry-relevant academic programmes.

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This 2025 *Special Edition* of the UMT Newsletter highlights our commitment to disciplined, strategic, and consistent institutional communication. Throughout the year, we have remained engaged monthly with our stakeholders to ensure that UMT's priorities, progress, and impact are articulated with clarity, purpose, and continuity.

The issues of this edition are emblematic of UMT's **strategic focus and delivery**, building international relationships, consolidating industry partnerships, accelerating dissemination of knowledge and community connections, and sustaining the standard of excellence in research, innovation, and academic achievement. Collectively, these milestones represent a university that is acting with intent, and not just doing well, within the national and world higher education sector.

More importantly, this Newsletter serves as a strategic link in aligning UMT and its stakeholders, both locally and globally, by translating institutional strategies into accessible narratives. It builds trust, supports partnerships, and portrays UMT as a university that listens, has an eye on the future, is responsive in public affairs, and advances the national agenda and international relevance.

We invite **feedback, suggestions, and comments** from our readers at any time. Your participation is essential as we continually improve our content, presentation, and storytelling. Moving forward, we are dedicated to refining this platform to inform better, connect, and inspire by ensuring it stays aligned with UMT's strategic goals and future ambitions.

See you all in the 2026 edition!



**Zukiferee bin Ibrahim**  
Executive Editor



## UMT NEWSLETTER

Special Edition 2025

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## Vice Chancellor's Message

**“Our global partners play a vital role in strengthening UMT’s visibility and reputation in the international landscape.”**

**At** Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), our mission to be a globally respected institution in Marine and Aquatic Sciences continues to guide our efforts in strengthening academic excellence, driving impactful research, and nurturing future-ready talent. Anchored by our commitment to “Ocean of Discoveries for Global Sustainability,” we remain focused on advancing knowledge and solutions that contribute to the health of our oceans, aquatic resources, and coastal societies.

In this rapidly evolving global landscape, international partnerships have become essential to strengthening UMT’s visibility and reputation on the world stage. Our collaborations with universities, research institutes, and industry partners around the globe have enriched the learning environment for our students, expanded our research horizons, and positioned UMT as an emerging leader in areas related to marine biodiversity, oceanography, aquaculture innovation, climate resilience, maritime technology, and environmental sustainability.

Throughout the past year, UMT has continued to grow its international footprint through meaningful collaborations that include joint research initiatives, academic exchanges, co-supervision activities, international conferences, and shared scientific expeditions. These endeavours have not only elevated UMT’s academic standing but also contributed to Malaysia’s national priorities, including the development of the blue economy, enhancement of food security, marine conservation, and capacity-building for maritime and aquatic industries.



**Professor Ir. Ts. Dr. Mohd Zamri Ibrahim**  
Vice Chancellor  
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)

As we advance towards becoming a premier marine-focused university in the region, we remain committed to fostering strong and strategic global partnerships that encourage innovation, support sustainable development, and open new opportunities for discovery.

We welcome new collaborations that align with our strengths and aspirations, and we value the continued trust from our long-standing partners.

I extend my highest appreciation to all UMT staff, students, and our global partners whose dedication and shared vision have been instrumental in elevating UMT’s international presence. Together, we will continue to chart new frontiers of research, education, and global impact.

Thank you, and let us continue this journey of excellence and discovery together. ✦

“Ocean of Discoveries for Global Sustainability”

# Powering Research Excellence through Advanced Scientific Infrastructure



By **Professor Ts. Dr. Mohd Fadzil bin Mohd Akhir**  
Pro Vice-Chancellor  
(Strategy, Performance and Corporate)



**R**esearch excellence is a defining pillar of a globally competitive university. At Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), sustained investment in advanced research infrastructure underpins our academic reputation, enabling impactful research, strong industry collaboration, and contributions to national and regional priorities, particularly in ocean science, sustainability, and the blue economy.

A cornerstone of UMT's research capacity is RV Discovery, a national-class research vessel that has served scientific missions for more than a decade. Over the past 10 years, RV Discovery has supported extensive scientific cruises across the South China Sea and the Straits of Malacca, generating long-term datasets on ocean circulation, productivity, marine ecosystems, and environmental health. These observations are fundamental to understanding climate variability, fisheries resources, and marine ecosystem resilience. As a national research platform, RV Discovery strengthens Malaysia's ocean observing capability and supports both domestic and international scientific collaboration.

Onshore, UMT's marine - aquaculture hatcheries and climate adaptation laboratory provide critical infrastructure for fisheries and aquaculture research. These facilities support studies on breeding, nutrition, health, and climate resilience of key marine species, directly contributing to national food security and sustainable aquaculture development. By integrating scientific research with industry and policy needs,

these centres exemplify UMT's commitment to translational research and societal impact.

UMT's growing strength in data-driven science is supported by high-performance computing (HPC). These platforms enable researchers to develop ocean climate prediction models, marine forecasting systems, and high-resolution simulations tailored to Malaysian and regional seas. Such capabilities are essential for advancing climate research, disaster risk reduction, and evidence-based marine governance, which are areas of increasing global importance.

In parallel, UMT leads national efforts in marine spatial intelligence through its drone and ocean mapping laboratories. Equipped with advanced aerial, acoustic, and geospatial technologies, these labs support coral reef assessment, seabed habitat mapping, and also marine archeology work, providing critical data for conservation planning, marine spatial management, ecosystem restoration and marine heritage.

Further reinforcing UMT's research leadership is its role in advancing offshore renewable energy innovation. Through the Centre for Offshore Renewable Energy (CEFORE), UMT, working together with PETRONAS, is leading Malaysia's first offshore hybrid ocean renewable energy proof-of-concept. This facility integrates ocean energy technologies to support research, testing, and system validation, positioning UMT at the forefront of offshore renewable energy research and energy transition initiatives in the region.

Collectively, these facilities form a comprehensive research ecosystem, one that enhances research productivity, strengthens international collaboration, and reinforces UMT's standing as a leading university in ocean science, sustainability, and innovation-driven research excellence. ♦

# International Partnerships as Strategic Drivers of Growth, Relevance, Long-term Sustainability

By Syarifah Noormaisarah Tuan Besar, International Centre



**U**niversiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) has continued to strengthen its position as a globally engaged university in line with the UMT Strategic Planning agenda, which emphasises internationalisation, research excellence, talent development, and sustainable impact. Strategic international partnerships have served as a key enabler in achieving these priorities by enhancing academic quality, research collaboration, global visibility, and graduate employability.

Aligned with UMT's strategic thrusts, partnerships with Japan, the United Kingdom (UK), the European Union (EU), and ASEAN have been identified as major drivers of institutional growth, international relevance, and long-term sustainability.

## Partnership with Japan

In support of UMT's strategic focus on research excellence and niche areas, Japan has remained one of UMT's most significant international partners, particularly in marine science, fisheries,

environmental sustainability, and applied technology. UMT currently maintains several active Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with reputable Japanese institutions, including Kagoshima University, Mie University, Nagasaki University, National Academy and Marine Research Kumamoto University and Tsukuba University.

These collaborations have facilitated joint research projects, co-publications, academic exchanges, technology transfer, and capacity-building initiatives. Through sustained engagement with Japanese partners, UMT has continued to strengthen its research ecosystem, expand international research networks, and reinforce its aspiration to be a leading institution in marine and environmental studies. Collectively, these efforts have contributed to innovation and sustainable solutions aligned with national and global priorities.

In addition, UMT's partnership with Japan has received strong support from the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia, reflecting the growing recognition of UMT's role in strengthening Malaysia-Japan academic relations. This has been further reinforced through a courtesy visit by His Excellency Mr. Shikata Noriyuki, Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia, to Universiti Malaysia Terengganu on 27 August 2025.

Following this engagement, the Embassy of Japan has extended an official invitation to UMT to participate in the JENESYS 2025 Programme (Malaysia-Japan Academic

Exchange Programme). As a result, one UMT academic staff member has been successfully selected to participate in the programme with full sponsorship, marking a significant milestone in UMT's international academic engagement with Japan.

This achievement has not only strengthened institutional ties between UMT and Japanese stakeholders but also enhanced UMT's international visibility, academic diplomacy, and capacity for high-impact international collaboration in line with its strategic planning agenda.

### **Partnership with the United Kingdom (UK)**

UMT's collaboration with institutions in the United Kingdom has supported the university's strategic objective of enhancing academic quality, global benchmarking, and programme competitiveness. UMT currently maintains eight active Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with institutions in the UK, reflecting a strong and sustained academic relationship.

Through these engagements, UMT has benefitted from internationally recognised academic practices and quality assurance frameworks, contributing to the development of future-ready graduates and the delivery of internationally competitive academic programmes.

In addition, UMT has been actively involved in inbound student mobility programmes with Heriot-Watt University, where UMT has hosted UK students at its campus through a flagship annual mobility programme. This programme is organised by the Faculty of Science and Marine Environment (FSSM) under the leadership of Associate Professor Dr. Siti Tahirah Jaffar. The programme provides students with academic exposure, experiential learning, and cross-cultural engagement, while simultaneously strengthening UMT's international visibility and reinforcing its reputation as a preferred destination for inbound mobility within the UK-Malaysia academic collaboration framework.

### **Partnership with the European Union (EU)**

The European Union has been a key strategic partner for UMT, particularly through Erasmus+ and other EU-funded initiatives, which align closely with UMT's strategic priorities on student and staff mobility, institutional capacity building, and international exposure.

Notably, Prof. Ts. Dr. Kesaven a/l Bhubalan has been actively engaged in Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) projects funded by the European Union with partners from Asia and Europe. He has received two Erasmus+ CBHE grants totalling approximately RM 4.8 million. The CBHE projects focus on management and operation of marine conservation monitoring lab for the protection of marine life from pressures imposed by climate change and plastic marine debris (ECOMARINE:- <https://ecomarine-project.eu/>) as well as at the advancement and integration of the sustainable blue economy within higher education institution (SustainaBlue:- <https://sustainablue-project.eu/>). Through these projects, Prof. Kesaven has established research collaborations with reputable higher education institutions and agencies in countries such as Spain, Cyprus, Greece, India, and Indonesia. Besides, with regards to his leadership expertise in capacity building and project management, he has been invited as a panel to discuss adapting learning content and teaching methods to achieve climate goals during the Regional

Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting and Contact-Making Seminar 2025 for Asia, the Middle East and the Pacific.

In addition, UMT has been actively involved in the Erasmus Mundus programme, particularly through its continuous participation in the Tropimundos programme, which UMT hosts on an annual basis. This long-standing engagement demonstrates UMT's strong commitment to high-impact international mobility and its ability to sustain collaboration with reputable European consortia.

The Tropimundos programme at UMT is coordinated under the leadership of Associate Professor Dr. Satyam Behara, a researcher from the Institute of Oceanography and Environment (INOS). From 2015 to 2025, a total of 170 international students from 49 countries have participated in the programme at UMT. Through Tropimundos, students gain academic exposure, field-based learning, and cross-cultural experiences in tropical marine and environmental studies, significantly enhancing UMT's global visibility and international academic ecosystem while contributing to the development of globally competent graduates.

### **Partnership within ASEAN**

As part of its strategic commitment to regional engagement and societal impact, UMT places strong emphasis on collaboration within the ASEAN region. Partnerships with ASEAN universities have supported student mobility, short-term academic programmes, joint courses, and collaborative research that has addressed shared regional challenges.

ASEAN countries have represented UMT's largest share of international collaborations, accounting for more than 50% of UMT's total international partnerships. This highlights UMT's strong regional presence and its strategic positioning as a leading higher education institution within Southeast Asia, particularly in areas related to marine resources, climate change, coastal communities, and sustainable development.

To further strengthen ASEAN and APAC collaborations, UMT has identified 10 active MoUs with institutions across the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region to be strategically mobilised through high-impact activities that contribute directly to institutional Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and enhance UMT's international visibility. In support of this effort, five academic members have been appointed as Persons-in-Charge (PICs) to spearhead the task of identifying, developing, and advancing new MoUs with leading institutions across the APAC region.

This structured and targeted approach ensures that ASEAN and APAC collaborations are outcome-driven, sustainable, and fully aligned with UMT's strategic planning framework.

### **Supporting UMT Strategic Planning and Global Aspirations**

Collectively, these top international partnerships with Japan, the United Kingdom, the European Union, and ASEAN have played a significant role in strengthening UMT's global reputation. Through sustained academic collaboration, high-impact mobility programmes, internationally funded research projects, and active academic diplomacy, UMT has continued to enhance its visibility, credibility, and recognition at the global level. These strategic engagements have positioned UMT as a trusted international partner, reinforced its standing within global academic networks, and supported its aspiration to be a globally recognised university with strong regional leadership and international impact. ♦

# Reinforcing UMT's Niche Positioning in National Blue Economy Research and Its Contribution to Malaysia

By Dr. Khaira Ismail, UMT BEACON

**As** Malaysia advances its aspiration to build a resilient, knowledge-driven and ocean-oriented economy, the role of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) has become increasingly significant.

Positioned strategically along the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia, UMT has cultivated a strong academic and research identity anchored in marine science, ocean governance, maritime technology and coastal sustainability, fields that form the heart of the global Blue Economy discourse. Through its research excellence, policy engagement and community centred maritime initiatives, UMT has continued to reinforce its niche as the nation's leading institution in advancing ocean sustainability and Blue Economy leadership.

The Malaysian Government's recognition of the Blue Economy as a national priority has been reflected through strategic frameworks such as the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (RMK-12), National Policy on Oceans, National Transport Policy (2019–2030), National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR), and the broader Ekonomi Madani agenda which signals the country's commitment to sustainably unlock the economic potential of its marine sectors. This includes maritime logistics, fisheries, coastal tourism, marine biotechnology, renewable ocean energy and marine resource governance.

These policies call for stronger scientific input, improved ocean stewardship, and an integrated approach to marine resource management, needs met directly through UMT's long-standing leadership in marine science and Blue Economy research.

UMT's contributions have been wide-ranging and deeply impactful. Through its flagship Blue Economy centre, UMT BEACON, the university has led targeted research exploring sustainable marine industries, smart maritime technology, coastal resilience, carbon-neutral maritime solutions and the circular use of ocean resources.

UMT's scientists and technologists have actively been engaged in national initiatives such as marine pollution modelling, coral reef conservation, fisheries stock assessment, marine spatial planning, and the adoption of digital and automated systems for maritime activities. These research outputs have not only informed national policy but also strengthened Malaysia's



competitiveness in the regional maritime economy.

Moreover, UMT has supported national capacity building by nurturing a generation of graduates, technologists, and researchers equipped with maritime competencies in engineering, oceanography, marine resource economics, and sustainable maritime operations.

Through partnerships with ministries, international agencies and industry players, UMT has trained future leaders who can operationalise Blue Economy principles within government agencies, port authorities, the logistics sector, conservation bodies, and coastal communities. This aligns closely with national priorities to increase high-skill talent under RMK-12 and MyDIGITAL, ensuring that Malaysia has the human capital needed to accelerate its transition toward a sustainable maritime future.

UMT's impact has also extended to coastal communities, particularly through outreach and knowledge-transfer programmes supporting climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, mangrove rehabilitation and responsible fisheries practices. These community-driven initiatives have strengthened the social dimension of Malaysia's Blue Economy by ensuring that coastal populations remain active beneficiaries of ocean-based economic growth.

Through research excellence, national policy engagement, technological innovation and holistic community involvement, UMT has continued to solidify its standing as Malaysia's premier institution in ocean sustainability and Blue Economy advancement.

As Malaysia seeks to strengthen its maritime economy while safeguarding ocean health, UMT's leadership remains indispensable, propelling the nation toward a future where economic opportunity and marine stewardship progress in harmony. ↕

# Innovation, Technology, and Industry Impact at UMT

By Assoc. Prof. ChM. Dr. Khairul Anuar Mat Amin, Innovation & Commercialization Centre (ICC)



**M**alaysia's higher education direction has evolved toward impactful, market-ready research guided by national priorities. This momentum has been reflected in Malaysia's performance in the Global Innovation Index (GII), where the country achieved an encouraging 34th position in 2025, with a national target to advance to 30th place in the coming years.

Reaching this goal requires bold, coordinated action, strengthening RDICE (Research, Development, Innovation, Commercialisation, and Economy) and accelerating innovation adoption. In line with this, the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MOSTI), and the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) have continued to guide universities toward research that generates not merely publications but also measurable economic value.

Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) has fully embraced this national agenda. The university has continued to foster a strong culture of innovation, ensuring that every research effort carries the potential to benefit industry and society.

A key component of this effort is intellectual property (IP) protection. UMT has successfully registered more than 800 IPs, a testament to the creativity and productivity of its researchers. These IPs are being prepared for monetisation through clear institutional policies and continuous awareness programmes that encourage researchers to prioritise IP filing and strategic commercialisation.

UMT's commitment to industry partnerships has been equally evident. As at today, the university maintains 22 active licensing agreements with companies commercialising UMT's innovations. These agreements have generated approximately RM18 million in revenue over the period 2024–2025 (2

years), demonstrating strong market confidence in UMT's technologies. This level of engagement reflects a mature innovation ecosystem grounded in trust, relevance, and long-term collaboration.

To further strengthen the bridge between industry and academia, UMT has provided matching grants encouraging companies to work directly with researchers. Through this mechanism, industries may present real-world challenges that are then addressed through applied research and targeted technological development. Innovations produced through such collaborations are protected, commercialised, and eventually generate royalties for the university, ensuring sustainable income and meaningful societal impact.

UMT has also offered internal pre-commercialisation funds to help researchers progress from laboratory results to market-ready prototypes. This early support accelerates technology maturation and strengthens product viability before industry adoption.

Complementing this effort, UMT has encouraged researchers to establish start-up companies as commercialisation vehicles. Currently, UMT has 12 active start-ups, with the earliest established in 2021. Collectively, these start-ups have generated over RM1.5 million in revenue for 2025, marking a promising trajectory for the university's innovation ecosystem. Start-ups serve as vital platforms for validating market demand, producing small-scale products, and attracting investors for future expansion. These strategic steps pave the way for scalable growth and eventually opportunities for public listing.

UMT remains committed to advancing impact-driven, innovation-led research. Through continuous training and entrepreneurship development programmes, researchers are equipped with the knowledge and confidence to commercialise their outputs.

By 2027, UMT aims to expand its portfolio by securing more than 30 licensing agreements and establishing 20 successful start-ups, strengthening its contribution to national development and Malaysia's innovation landscape. †

# Enhancing Perceptions of Institutional Responsibility and Society Value

By Dr. Zuha Rosufila Abu Hasan, Ts. Dr. Ezmahamrul Afreen Awalludin, Siti Nurhasmira Abu Hassan, Mohd Shahir Haniff Abd Manaf, Centre for Knowledge Transfer, Industry and Community Network

**U**niversity engagement with the community is a vital element in strengthening the role of higher education as a driver of social well-being and development. At Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), this commitment has been realised through various strategic initiatives that leverage academic expertise, professional staff support, and active student participation.

As an institution grounded in marine and maritime knowledge, UMT emphasises societal values and two-way relationships with the community. The university's proximity to coastal areas facilitates the implementation of research activities, knowledge transfer programmes, and relevant, hands-on social responsibility initiatives, thereby empowering local communities, particularly coastal communities in Terengganu and the East Coast region.

## UMT as Catalyst for Community Empowerment

The strong commitment to community development has enabled UMT to implement a wide range of strategic initiatives specifically designed to address genuine societal needs. Key approaches included aligning academic expertise with community needs to ensure that intervention programmes are targeted, relevant, and impactful, as well as providing platforms for knowledge and technology transfer, training, and mentoring to diverse community groups. Each knowledge

transfer programme was monitored and evaluated to ensure effectiveness and sustainability. This approach ensured that UMT's initiatives focused on strengthening community capacity through continuous, structured, and high-impact implementation, rather than one-off activities.

## Strengthening UMT's Perception and Visibility through Community Projects

UMT has implemented various high-impact projects that provided direct benefits to the communities, in line with the university's commitment to social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

Key initiatives included coral reef and marine ecosystem conservation, coastal erosion management, fish farming programmes and aquaculture technologies to enhance the income of fishermen and B40 communities, as well as knowledge transfer on stingless bee farming and the production of stingless bee honey products.

These initiatives have also been extended to families of the Malaysian Armed Forces through the MADANI Economic Development Project. In addition, UMT has nurtured young people's interest in science, technology, and innovation through STEM and robotics programmes, as well as educational initiatives for the Orang Asli pupils.

Digital literacy and entrepreneurship programmes have further provided access to modern digital skills, enabling youth and small-scale entrepreneurs to compete more effectively in the rapidly growing digital economy.

Marine Polyculture Aquaponics development project to generate additional income for visually impaired persons with disabilities in Kampung Teluk Ketapang





*UMT's Focused Community Project in Kg. Kubang Badak serves as a Living Lab, integrating three main initiatives, namely the Rainwater Collection and Reuse System, the Integrated Catfish Farming Project, and the Oyster Mushroom Cultivation Project.*

This approach has been further strengthened through the implementation of the UMT Living Lab, a collaborative field-based model that integrates research, innovation, and direct community engagement in real-world-settings. Through this lab, UMT's focus communities, such as the coastal communities, not only become beneficiaries but also strategic partners involved in problem-solving processes, idea generation, technology testing, and joint project development.

UMT's Focused Community Project in Kg. Kubang Badak serves as a Living Lab, integrating three main initiatives, namely the Rainwater Collection and Reuse System, the Integrated Catfish Farming Project, and the Oyster Mushroom Cultivation Project.

UMT's continuous efforts in fulfilling its social role have enhanced the effectiveness of the university's engagement with the community. Systematic planning and implementation of community programmes have shown that the university's benefits are not only for the campus community but also positively impact the surrounding community.

Structured academic expertise, high-impact project management, and close collaboration with the community have enabled the university to continuously strengthen its

commitment to building a knowledgeable, resilient, and thriving community.

The programme's success has been further reinforced through active cooperation with various government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the industry sector, ensuring effective implementation and long-term benefits.



*Malaysia's Minister of Defence and guests listening to a briefing on UMT's knowledge transfer in the Stingless Bee Farming project by Dr. Zuha Rosufila Abu Hasan, Director of PPIJM, UMT*

# UMT Empowers IDAMAN Students to Become Talented and Competitive Global Generation

By Fadli Mamat, Student and Alumni Affairs

**Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) has remained committed to producing “IDAMAN students,” who not only excel academically but also possess strong intellectual capacity, a solid sense of identity, as well as leadership and volunteerism qualities that enable them to become impactful alumni on the global stage.**

Talent development approach implemented at UMT has focused on shaping students with leadership, innovation, employability, social awareness and professional skills through a range of strategic programmes especially designed for undergraduates.

Through its Student Affairs and Alumni Office (HEPA), UMT has implemented various initiatives to advance the inclusive talent development of “IDAMAN Students.”

Among these are the Student Talent Development Camp (BAKAT) and the Student Leadership Camp (KEMESIS), which served as platforms to strengthen efforts in identifying and nurturing students’ leadership potential. These high-potential

students were selected to participate in the National Student Programme organized by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) as part of the efforts to cultivate a strong sense of patriotism.

In terms of professional skills, students have also been exposed to entrepreneurship programmes managed by the Centre for Graduate Entrepreneurship and Employability (UMT-GEM).

Among the programmes organized to nurture students’ entrepreneurship potential are the Serambi Niaga Project, the Student Microcredit Programme (PEMERKASA), the Future Entrepreneurs in Food Security Convention (FEAST), the Digital Innovation Creativepreneur (DICE), and many others.

UMT has also strengthened students’ global visibility through international exchanges and collaboration programmes, which have provided opportunities for them to understand professional cultures in different countries and to build international networks.

Students with strong potential and global leadership values were selected to represent the university as presenters at international seminars through the Global Student Leadership Summit (GSLs) programme. In 2024, six UMT students participated in GSLs in Istanbul, Turkey, and in 2025, four students delivered their presentation based on



five thrusts, namely leadership, sustainability: environment social governance, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, at Tsukuba Ibari University, Japan.

In addition, UMT has placed strong emphasis on the natural development of students' character through leadership values by providing opportunities for them to lead clubs, associations, and community-based projects. Through these experiences, students are able to sharpen their skills in communicating, managing teams, solving problems, while also adapting to the need to uphold ethics and integrity in making decisions. These efforts ensure that UMT students are not only well prepared to enter the workforce, but are also capable of becoming positive agents of change for the community and the industry.

All these talent development initiatives have further strengthened UMT's position as a university that produces graduates who are confident, resilient, and capable of competing on the global stage.

Strategic collaborations with industry players, government agencies, and international partners have also created wider opportunities for students to grow into outstanding talents.

Through the continuous implementation of holistic talent development programmes, UMT has demonstrated that it not only prioritizes academic excellence but also takes the responsibility to shape a future generation that is competent, credible, and prepared to face global challenges.

With these comprehensive efforts, UMT has continued to elevate its standing as a leading educational institution that nurtures talents who not only excel in Malaysia but also shine on the world stage. ♠







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