Tun S. Samy Vellu's Inspiring Leadership Will Long Be Remembered

Installation of Pro-Chancellor and 13th Convocation, 2022

Biotech Industry Collaboration on Green Technology
VISION
To be an Internationally Renowned University Achieving Excellence in Teaching and Research by 2025

MISSION
To Develop Talent for National Prosperity and Spearhead Cutting-edge Research for Humanity
OUR MISSION
In Discharging Our Mission, We Shall

Ensure students experience the best teaching and research in medicine and other health sciences, engineering, computer technology, applied sciences, business and accountancy and law that will put them in good stead in their professional carries.

Maintain high academic standards and quality in teaching that promote analytical thinking necessary to function responsibly in globalized world.

Offer high quality and accredited undergraduate and post graduate programmes at an affordable cost in line with the national educational philosophy.

Establish centres of excellence for research and innovation in frontier areas of science and technology.

Ensure the sustainability of the university through the design of relevant programmes that guarantee graduate employability.

Discharge our purpose with integrity, respect, teamwork, professionalism, excellence and service to the community.

Care for the welfare of the employee.

Undertake social responsibility initiatives including promoting life-long learning.
EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

- Demonstrate outstanding knowledge and expertise in their field
- Exhibit critical, creative and problem solving skills in their professional practice
- Synthesize information from varied disciplines to achieve their professional goals
- Engage in continuous self-improvement and professional growth
- Display transformational leadership and support the professional growth of others
- Possess a respectful mind that allows for learning from others
- Communicate effectively with other professionals and the community
- Have a strong sense of social responsibility to improve social welfare
- Assimilate and apply the university's core values (integrity, respect, teamwork, professionalism, excellence and service) in their professional and daily lives

PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

- Knowledge
- Practical skills
- Social skills & Responsibility
- Values, Attitudes & Professionalism
- Communication, Leadership & Team Skills
- Problem Solving & Scientific Skills
- Information Management & Lifelong Learning Skills
- Managerial & Entrepreneurial Skills
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FOREVER IN

Our Hearts

TUN S. SAMY VELLU

8 March 1936 - 15 September 2022

FOUNDER, CHANCELLOR AND CHAIRMAN
OF AIMST UNIVERSITY

A Legend many of us will miss
As the saying goes, "Vision without action is merely a daydream. Action without a vision is a nightmare.

If there is one person who fits the bill of setting a vision for his community and executing it with gusto till its achievement, it is none other than Tun S. Samy Vellu, former president of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) and the founder of AIMST University. Samy Vellu was born to a poor family on March 8, 1936, in an estate near Kluang, Johor. His humble beginnings started as an office assistant in an architect's firm.

However, his ambition and perseverance propelled him to further his education until he qualified as a certified architect in 1972. Samy Vellu's political career began at the tender age of 23. In 1959, he joined the Batu Caves MIC branch. Observing the poor living conditions of estate workers, he dedicated himself to uplifting the welfare of his community. He realised that an effective platform to do so was the MIC. So, in 1975, he contested the post of MIC vice-president and obtained the highest number of votes. Through hard work and perseverance, he rose up the ranks within the party to secure the most esteemed position as president of the MIC in 1979. He continued to hold the position for 31 years and over 10 consecutive terms. As a member of the ruling coalition, he was appointed to various cabinet positions. One such portfolio was as Malaysia's works minister. Another was the energy minister. And, he became the country's longest-serving minister representing the Indian community in the cabinet for 29 years. As MIC leader, he had a burning desire to discharge the trust that the Indian community had entrusted in him.

Indians in Malaysia are a part of the global Indian diaspora. Under colonial rule, Samy Vellu's parents had come to the country as indentured labourers working in rubber plantations. They also largely constituted the bulk of unskilled workers that built the nation's infrastructure. Given their vocation, over the decades, Indians had become a disadvantaged community. As a mark of steward leadership, Samy Vellu focused on his community and society rather than himself.

Its economic upliftment became the goal of Samy Vellu's vision and leadership. He rallied the party to share in that vision as well. He realised early on that the only way for Indians to get out of their hardship was through education and self-empowerment.

His vision aligned with what Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa, once said:

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Accordingly, Samy Vellu founded and became the chairman of the Maju Institute of Educational Development (MIED) in 1984. MIED is a non-profit organisation that continues the work of Samy Vellu to raise the community's awareness of the importance of education. In line with this mission, Samy Vellu channelled through the MIED educational loans and scholarships to deserving Malaysian-Indian students. Valuing diversity, MIED opened up these scholarship schemes to other races as well.
In partnership with TAFE Western Australia, Samy Vellu established the TAFE college in Seremban and Kuala Lumpur in 1986. But, he also dreamt big. He knew that small dreams did not stir the hearts of men and women. And so, he floated the idea of a university to MIC members in the mid-1990s. There would be no transformation without resistance. It is the push-back from the naysayers that challenges the change agents to push for higher grounds. There were pockets of opposition to this grand plan, but a body of individuals who saw the potential of Samy Vellu’s vision of a university as a valuable means to provide quality education at a reasonable cost for a promising future not only for Malaysian Indians but also for all Malaysians realised this dream. Samy Vellu’s ability to lead, steer and control his charge in furtherance of the vision for the university saw him cobbled together a coterie of those in the party who were aligned with his vision of a university for the Indian community. With this coalition, he envisioned a plan to build a university.

William Shakespeare in his play Julius Caesar says through the character of Brutus: "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries. On such a full sea are we now afloat. And we must take the current when it serves, or lose our ventures." In a similar vein, Samy Vellu rallied his members, exhorting them that the time was ripe to strike out and build a university that the community would be proud of. He leveraged his influence in the cabinet and the goodwill that the government had for the MIC.

He knew that the ruling government would surely help the party. If this opportunity was not taken, the party would have lost the venture. Again, demonstrating steward leadership, Samy Vellu took a great risk to pitch the idea of a university and to stake funds for its construction. With this vision in mind, in August 1997, an application was submitted to set up AIMST University at Sungai Petani, Kedah. The federal government initially pledged a matching grant of RM50 million. But, by 2007, it had generously advanced this grant incrementally to RM300 million. To cut a long story short, the Asian Institute of Medicine, Science, and Technology (AIMST) was set up in 2001. AIMST moved to Semeling, Kedah in 2008, from its temporary abode in Bandar Aman Jaya, Sungai Petani, Kedah.

Samy Vellu's passion to offer educational opportunities to all Malaysians was the driving force behind it all. He spearheaded many other projects – housing, employment, business opportunities – in his desire to uplift the Indian community. But, AIMST remains the much-vaunted jewel in the MIC's crown. Since its inception, AIMST has graduated some 7,000 graduates, of which 2,674 or 40 per cent are students from the Indian community. The latter might not have had an opportunity for tertiary education were it not for Samy Vellu's vision and his desire to make good the community trust entrusted in him.

Through these graduates, many families have been blessed with a good standard of living. With its focus on medicine, science and technology, AIMST University continues to play a key role in the development of the nation, especially the northern region of Malaysia.

In December 2010, Samy Vellu announced his retirement from politics. He was subsequently appointed Malaysia's Special Envoy of Infrastructure to India and South-Asian countries, with ministerial rank from 2011 to 2018. Of his appointment, the former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak stated that it would be a loss to the country if Samy Vellu's talent was not utilised. Many local companies would benefit from the appointment. For his excellent service, leadership and statesmanship, he was conferred the Seri Setia Mahkota (SSM), the nation's highest award, which carries the title "Tun" in 2017. The Indian diaspora is spread across the globe. Through their hard work, Indians everywhere enjoy a good life. However, it is only in Malaysia that the Indian diaspora went on to build a university to provide quality education at an affordable cost for all Malaysians. One man made it all possible. And that was Tun Samy Vellu.

And so, our story ends with this quote by Francis Drake, the English seafarer: "There must be a beginning of any great matter, but the continuing unto the end until it be thoroughly finished yields the true glory." Samy Vellu's development of AIMST is a testament to the above quote. He will be sadly missed. His memory will long be in our hearts. We shall continue his work and make this university a fine institution that we can be proud of.
As a show of respect and heartfelt tribute, staff and students of AIMST University gathered at the Great Hall on 20th September 2022, to commemorate the life and work of Tun S. Samy Vellu. The homage to the late Founder, Chancellor and Chairman of AIMST University started with a tribute by the Vice-Chancellor of AIMST University, Professor Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier. Tun S. Samy Vellu was a great statesman and a visionary, and his loss will be deeply felt by AIMST community and throughout the country.
INSTALLATION OF PRO-CHANCELLOR
His Excellency, Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Dr. SA. Vigneswaran was installed as the first Pro-Chancellor of AIMST University in a regal ceremony held at the magnificent Great Hall on 28th May, 2022. The certificate of appointment was presented to him by the Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of AIMST University, Prof. Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier.
13TH CONVOCATION
Glimpse of convocation ceremony
AIMST University celebrated its 13th Convocation Ceremony on 28th & 29th May 2022 amidst huge fanfare and grandeur. The two day event also witnessed the installation of H.E. Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Dr. SA. Vigneswaran as the first Pro-Chancellor of AIMST University. The resounding success of this event was largely due to the extraordinary efforts by the convocation steering committee, AIMST staff and students who have contributed countless hours to ensure graduates and their families experienced a graduation weekend to remember.
AIMST IN FOCUS
His Excellency, Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Dr. S. Vigneswaran chaired the executive committee meeting of AIMST University at the Maju Institute of Educational Development (MIED) office on 11 August, 2022. The committee has been working relentlessly towards making AIMST the world class university aligned with the mission to educate, train, and create the leaders of tomorrow.

The Vice-Chancellor of AIMST University, Prof. Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier together with the Executive Director of Kedah Industrial Skills and Management Development Centre (KISMEC) Mohd Yusuri Yusof at the MOU signing ceremony on 23rd May, 2022. Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor witnessed the signing and exchange of MOU.
Prof. Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier and senior management of AIMST sharing Hari Raya delights with students and staff of AIMST University.
AIMST OPEN DAY

Glimpses of prospective students and their families visiting the campus during AIMST Open Day
The Vice-Chancellor & Chief Executive of AIMST University, Professor Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier, along with the Registrar and Bursar, met the Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), Professor Dr. Haim Hilman Abdullah, on 2nd of August 2022. The meeting was to forge future collaboration between AIMST University and UUM.

Associate Professor Dr. Lee Su Yin was appointed Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences, effective from 1st of October 2022.
Since its inception in 1997, Ideal Property Group has been a significant property developer in Malaysia. The Penang-based Ideal Property Group is known for its creativity and innovation. The property developer has an extensive portfolio of successful and acclaimed projects, including high-rise, landed residential and commercial development in Malaysia and Cambodia. Among the notable developments are The One, Queens Waterfront, and I-Santorini. Ideal Property Group is a developer that strives to create a legacy by creating sustainable and community-oriented development. The company is devoted to developing sustainable communities in its projects, including vital public utilities, low-cost maintenance, and adequate recreation activities for a balanced and excellent living.

Apart from contributing to the quality development of the real estate business, the Group actively embarks on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes by giving back to the community. The Group constantly assists the underprivileged and contributes extensively to the communities overall well-being by providing essential necessities to low income families, constructing and improving public amenities, updating infrastructure, and providing land for schools. Among the completed CSR projects are the Mentally Retarded School in Relau, Surau in Sungai Ara, St. John Emergency Rescue base in Relau and Fire & Rescue Centre in Sri Tanjung. Since one of the company’s core value is to create collaboration with top tier universities and agencies, AIMST University and Ideal Property Group signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 13th July 2022. Both organization believe that there will be mutual benefits in the business sector through this affiliation.
Prof. Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier, along with members from the senior management of AIMST University, met his Excellency Milan Hupcej, the Ambassador of Czech Republic to Malaysia; Madam Renata, the Economic and Trade counselor; Prof. David Herak, Dean Faculty of Engineering and Vice Director of International Relation, University of Life Sciences; Engineer, Pavel Srb, Technical University of Liberca, Czech Republic. The meeting focused on exploring a tie-up with the University for the student mobility and appointment of Adjunct Professors for the faculty. Technical University of Liberca boasts a century old tradition of excellence in education and research in the field of Precision Agriculture, Robotics and IR 4.0 embedded AI.

Courtesy call by Prof. Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier on Encik Hussaini Amir, the Director of Private University Standards, the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia (August 5, 2022)

Courtesy call by Prof. Datuk Dr. John Antony Xavier and Prof. Yu Chye Wah on Puan Devi Saravana Muthu, the Secretary of the Nursing Board of Malaysia, Ministry of Health, Malaysia.
Great enthusiasm and anticipation were seen among the prospective students for the August 2022 intake in Foundation in Science, Foundation in Business, and other undergraduate programs. It was a memorable day for the new students as they embarked on a fascinating academic journey with AIMST University.

AIMST University welcomed the first batch of the Global Immersion Program (GIP) students from JSS Dental College, India. Eight students who were affiliated with the Faculty of Dentistry, AIMST University were involved in GIP this year (2022).
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
On June 4, 2022, School of Physiotherapy, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, AIMST University, organized a webinar on exercise for the management of side effects and quality of life among cancer patients. The main objective of this event was to provide the participants with more knowledge on physiotherapy and exercise for mitigating the side effects of cancer. The participants hailed from multiple physiotherapy backgrounds, including student physiotherapist, private and government physiotherapist, educator and rehabilitation trainer. This was the fifth event organized by the School of Physiotherapy. The team members who worked on this project were: Mr. Kavinthiran, Ms. Siva Sangary, Mr. Nazrie, Ms. Low Chia Huei, Ms. Nur Fatin and Ms. Pavitra.

Lecturers from the Faculty of Applied Sciences visited HZ Green Pulp Sdn Bhd at Parit Buntar, Perak. It is one of the leading manufacturers of molded pulp products. They export their green recyclable products to large corporations in Asia, Europe and USA. FAS had signed an MOU with HZ Green Pulp in December 2021, which was facilitated by AIMST Biotech alumnus, Mr. Navin Reno. The CEO, Dato Donald Yap met the visiting team and agreed to collaborate with AIMST University on the areas of research projects, short micro credential and certificate courses under HRDF programme and joint research grant on green technologies. AIMST Team (first to fourth from right) with the CEO of HZ Green Pulp (fourth from left) and Mr. Navin Reno, Biotech alumnus (third from left).
Prof. Kalai Mathee from Florida International University (FIU), Miami, USA visited the Faculty of Applied Sciences on 22 March 2022. Prof. Kalai is from Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Biomolecular Sciences Institute, and Bioinformatics Research Group (BioRG), FIU, and Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Medical Microbiology. She is also a member of the AIMST International Advisory Board member. Prof Kalai Mathee gave a talk on Metagenome, Metaresistome & Metareplicome: Glimpse into the Microbiome Social Network. Besides that, she also participated in a review exercise of the BSc Biotechnology and BSc Bioinformatic curricula, and gave useful feedback and suggestions on improving both curricula. Previously eight AIMST BSc (Hons) Bioinformatics students successfully completed a virtual internship program under the mentorship of Prof. Kalai Mathee and her team at FIU for 12 weeks, from 26 July 2021 to 15 October 2021.
FACULTY OF BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT
Members of the LRGS team including Dr. Rusnifaazah Musa from the Faculty of Business and Management visited Sabah and Sarawak for data collection for the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) funded LRGS project. The second phase of data collection focused on FGD (focus group discussion) with the women entrepreneurs associated with the Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia (AIM). The findings of the study may help to reduce poverty rate in Malaysia especially among women and help them to improve their visibility in the business.

VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

The Faculty of Business and Management organized 1st Virtual International Conference on Multidisciplinary Perspective in Business Management, Social Sciences and Technology (ISBMSST 2022) in collaboration with Postgraduate & Research Department of Management (HICAS), India on 27 June 2022. The theme of the conference was “Embrace Innovation, Transformation and Sustainability”. The Conference was chaired by Ms. Santhi Appannan, from Faculty of Business and Management, AIMST University and Dr Sudhakar from Hindustan College of Arts and Science (HICAS). The inaugural address and keynote speech were delivered by distinguished and honourable Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive of AIMST University, Professor Datuk Dr. John Anthony Xavier. A total of 102 participants joined the conference.
BizMaker 2022

The most anticipated business challenge event: BizMaker 2022 was organized by University Sains Malaysia management society. A total of 31 teams participated in this challenge. Four (4) teams from the Faculty of Business and Management participated in this Business challenge, one team, TEAM 3 managed to get into the top 15 finalists advancing to the BizPitching.

Team 1
Kodiswarann Arumugam
Lam Xin Yih
Monisha Subramaniam
Ong Yee Ting
Ali Muhammad Sabel

Team 2
Ezra Denilson
Shaarven Gobi
Duruvendran
Suniljith Singh
Yogeswara

Team 3
Dylan Ooi Yin
Pavissnah
Stephanie
Devaa Surendraa
Dessikan

Team 4
Tharrshini
Prebita Mahendiran
Thanusha Murali
Puvahrasi
FACULTY OF
DENTISTRY
The 5th AIMST Dental Students’ Colloquium was conducted online and face-to-face from 28th to 29th July, 2022. The colloquium comprised of fifteen events crafted by the Faculty to improve soft and leadership skills of the students. There were about 250 participants from Year 1 to Year 5 BDS and Year 1 to Year 4 BDT. The events comprised of quiz, calligraphy, caricature, debate, mannequin challenge, blog writing, poetry writing, Sculpt to Sculpt, Mad-Ads, Talent show, soap carving, photography, slogan writing, wire bending and meme-making competitions. The Year 5 BDS i.e. Batch 13 topped the competition and was declared ‘Overall Championship’. The organizing committee consisted of Dr. Manikandan as advisor, Dr. Saurabh Shekhar, as chairman and Dr. Priya Karthikeyan, Dr. Lirin Ann Thomas and Ms. Mangalaroopini Rajaguru as co-chairs.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ramesh, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Students Affairs and the Dean Faculty of Dentistry, AIMST University paid a visit to his alma mater while on leave at Chennai, India.
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING & COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY
Arduino UNO is a low-cost, flexible, and easy-to-use programmable open-source microcontroller board that may integrate into various electronic projects. Dr. Saravana Selvan from the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Technology of AIMST University conducted a workshop on Virtual Arduino Simulation on 18th May 2022 from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon via the zoom platform. About 15 candidates from Polytechnics and Engineering Colleges, and prospective Engineering students from College Community Padang Terap, Kedah, College Vocational Kulim, Kedah, College Vocational Batu Lanchang, Penang, College Community Bayan Baru, Penang, and Advanced Technology Training Center (ADTEC), Batu Pahat, Johor attended this workshop virtually. In this workshop, the Wowki online simulator was used to teach how to control various types of electronic components and instruments such as LEDs, Buzzers, LDRs, LCDs, Ultrasonic Sensors, and Temperature Sensors etc.
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
The Faculty of Medicine and the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL), AIMST University have successfully completed the fourth batch of the Certificate in Communication Skills for Healthcare Professions (CCSHP) programme. This online programme had been delivered successfully in 3 batches earlier.

The merits of the CCSHP programme are as follows:

- CCSHP is a flagship programme of Faculty of Medicine and Center for Lifelong Learning, AIMST University
- The principal trainer is Senior Prof. Dr. K.R. Sethuraman, who has vast experience in medical education.
- Upon completion of each training session, the audio and video recordings are shared with each participant for future reference.

The CCSHP programme aims to enable and empower the participants to effectively train their UG/PG students in the art & science of communication skills relevant to Medical, Dental, Nursing and Allied Health Professions. It is conducted online in 6 sessions, each session of 4 hours duration.
COMMUNITY SURVEY AND MEDICAL CAMP,
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

The MBBS batch 25 year 3 group D students conducted the health and morbidity survey in Kampung Sungai division from 16th to 20th May 2022 to identify the health and morbidity patterns and associated factors in the rural area. The activities were supervised by Community Medicine Unit of AIMST, and the main supervisor was Dr. Saraswathi Bina Rai. They also organized health screening camp on 21st May 2022 in SJK(T) Palanisamy Kumara and the student leader was Mr. Damon Goh Yi Yang. Anthropometry, blood glucose and blood pressure check-up, eye examination, medical examination and counseling were tested among 40 participants.

HELPING HANDS TO SENIOR CITIZENS

Health screening camp for the elderly was organized by Dr. Theingi Maung Maung, Associate Professor of Community Medicine, in Pusat Jagaan Darul Hanan, Kepala Batas, Penang on 20th May 2022. Prof. Sundarsanan, Dr. Sawri Rajan, Dr. Madhumita Sen, Year 5 medical students and Physiotherapy students were involved in this team. Medical examination, mental health screening and timely referral were carried out among 70 residents.
Batch 27 orientation was carried out on 13th May, 2022 at AIMST campus. The purpose of this orientation was to enable students to know their batch mates and get an opportunity to enjoy the station games after their busy schedule. Around 110 students attended the orientation. They were divided into 12 groups and each group was guided by 2 facilitators. There were 6 station games in total and 2 groups had to go to each station simultaneously. At the end of the orientation, 3 most outstanding groups were selected, and prizes were given to the winners.
FACULTY OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
The Student-Nurses Association (SNA) and the School of Nursing organized Nurses Night on the 13th of May 2022 at Cinta Sayang Resort Sungai Petani. The theme for this year was "Met Gala Night". Students and Staff of School of Nursing attended the event. The event was officiated by the Faculty Dean, Prof. Dr Yu Chye Wah. The event started with reading the Nurses Pledge led by the SNA President and followed by the nursing students, committing themselves to the Nurses Pledge. Nursing students from each batch participated in singing, dancing and talent show.

The Post-Basic Renal course was officially launched on the same day by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Student Affairs; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ramesh Kumaresan, Registrar; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sundram M.Karupiah, Bursar; Mr. Halikhan Bin Daulat C.A(M), Dean of Faculty of Allied Health Profession; Prof. Dr. Yu Chye Wah. Deputy Dean; Madam.Rajeswar Sinnasamy, Program Coordinator of Post Basic Renal; Ms. Wong and Post Basic Renal Lecture; Ms. Ushaa Devi Subramonian.
AIMST Nursing students got sponsored by the Bagan Specialist Centre. The visit by Chief Matron to AIMST University on 14th June 2022 encouraged students engagement in studies and strengthened the relationship between sponsor, teaching staffs and students.

NURSING PROFESSION IS IN DEMAND

RAYA... ALWAYS A CELEBRATION TIME...

Marking the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, the Faculty celebrated Hari Raya Aidilfitri. The venue was beautifully decorated with traditional lighting with Bamboo Raya Lamps expending a lot of creativity and experimentation using different styles and bright colors. The faculty was filled with wishes of —Selamat Hari Raya,

HOME VISIT AND SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

AIMST University Year 2 Nursing students enrolled into the Community Outreach Programme, Home Visit and School Health Service. This programmes were led by Madam Cheah Joon Bee. The students are serving the community as part of their clinical attachment.
On 27th and 28th of May 2022, the Faculty of Allied Health Profession of AIMST University celebrated the Felicitation Ceremony for the Batches 14, 15, 16, 17, Cohort 1 and Post-Basic Critical-Care Nursing in conjunction with the taking of the Hippocratic Oath. It is customary at Faculty of Allied Health Profession to felicitate the graduates a day before the Convocation. Activities such as a magical memorial, cake cutting, and group photos were organized.

AIMST’s Post-Basic Renal Nursing students made a field trip visit to the National Kidney Foundation Superkid Trinity Alor Setar on 13th of June 2022. The students exposed themselves to information regarding better care and resources for Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) patients. Thanks to Dr. Mazlyn and Staff Nurse Noor Faiza and team for sharing the knowledge with us.
STAFF NEWS & ACHIEVEMENT
The 7th Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health (APCPH) with the theme “Public Health in a Changing World” was held from 2nd to 4th of August 2022 at the Double Tree Hilton at i-City Shah Alam. It saw an overwhelming participation of over 800 public-health personnel from all over the country. There were eminent speakers from all over the country and from overseas. It was a great time to meet up and network after two years of online conferences. It was also a great opportunity to update on new developments in Public Health.

Dr Bina from the Faculty of Medicine was an invited speaker and she delivered a talk on “One Health Approach in Public Health Action” during the One Health Symposium. It was heartening to see our alumni in attendance. As always, when alumni and staff meet there is much to exchange and talk about.

INNOVATION COMPETITION

Mr. Maheswaran Solayappan, Senior Lecturer at Faculty of Applied Sciences, AIMST University was part of the team that won a Silver Award in the COVID-19 International Innovation Awards (Advanced Healthcare & Life Sciences International Innovation Awards), Malaysian Technology Expo (MTE) 2022 on 24 June 2022. Their innovation, NETRA Cleaning & Sterile Systems for Malls & Airport Trolleys is an auto-sterilization system for shopping mall and airport trolleys that aims to reduce hand-transmitted diseases. Mr Maheswaran collaborated with Mr Elan from REK Engineering Machinery Sdn Bhd. on the innovation.
Ms. Phoon Lee Yong from the Faculty of Business and Management delivered a webinar entitled “Protect Your Intellectual Property” on 22 June 2022 (Wednesday) for the AIMST Quality Improvement Programme (AQIP), organised by the Library Division. The speaker shared the different categories of Intellectual Property protected by the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO).

Dr. Rahul from the Faculty of Dentistry delivered a keynote lecture and was a panel member of symposium at Malaysian International Dental Show 2022. He also conducted a hands-on workshop and was the judge for the poster competition at the conference.
Professor Dr. Naeem Hasan Khan, received the lifetime achievement award for his academic, research and professional experience during his stay in Belgium, the Netherlands, the U.K., France, Spain and Malaysia. The awards was given by INSO-2022 Awards Foundations and VDGOOD Professional Association, India

Dr. Shivkanya Fuloria received the “Young Pharmacy Teacher Award 2022” from Association of Pharmacy Professional

Prof. Dr. V. Ravichandran was placed in the “top 1000 scientists” position in Malaysia, and overall top place in AIMST University, 2022, according to AD Scientific Index for the year 2021 (Based on Google Scholar Citation)

Dr. Neeraj Kumar Fuloria, has been appointed as Adjunct Professor at Center for Transdisciplinary Research, Department of Pharmacology, Saveetha Dental College and Hospital, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Saveetha University, Chennai 600077, India

Dr. A. Muthuraman received "Excellence Service Award" in the International Scientist Awards on Engineering, Science, and Medicine based on his research contribution in Pharmaceutical Science and Medicine. Awarded by INSO-2022 Awards Foundation and VDGOOD Professional Association, India
STUDENT NEWS & ACHIEVEMENT
The Biotechnology postgraduate students of the Faculty of Applied Sciences who are part of the Centre of Excellence for Omics-Driven Computational Biodiscovery (COMBio) led by Ms. Prasanna Mutusamy submitted an entry for the Thought for Food Challenge 2022. The innovation was called "Phage-cific: Phage-based green agri-biocontrol solution". The CEO for Thought for Food (TFF), Southeast Asia, was very impressed with the entry and gave a sponsored slot at the Malaysian International Food and Beverage Trade Fair (MIFB). It is hoped that a venture capitalist will take up the project and convert it to a startup. The other team members are Ms. Michelle Loh Jia Min, Ms. Heama Maleini, Ms. Fong Tze Yan, Ms. Priscilla Isaac and Mr. Yukgehaish Kumarasan. They were mentored by Dr. Heraa Rajandas, Director of COMBio. Please check out the video done by the students for the TFF challenge at https://youtu.be/hAl2bQSc5us
During the covid-19 pandemic, many people stayed at home in their “safe zone”. For one student, the stress he experienced during the covid-19 pandemic proved a turning point – he decided to participate in a rap competition! Mr Vethendran A/L Muniandy, a final year BSc (Hons) Biotechnology student, has a passion for rapping since he was young. He took a chance and signed-up for ASTRO’s Season 2 Rap Porkalam competition from 15/3/22 to 8/4/22. Despite having to juggle his time between online classes and the rap competition, Vethendren managed to achieve fourth place in the competition. His Youtube video can be viewed here: https://youtu.be/1_Z1HTSLrjc

On 12th June AIMST University Year 3 batch 18 Nursing students participated in ‘Kuiz Minda’ organized by National Museum and Malaysian Nursing Board
Its 2012. Exams done, degree acquired, and dreams met. Congratulations! This is it! I’m a Doctor. Right? Well...

Disclaimer: You’re not a “real” doctor until you get your MMC registration.

Fortunately, I found my passion early. I did not want to stop at “Dr”. I was aiming for Ms Karthikayenee Ramasamy, Hepatopancreatobiliary (HPB) Surgeon. Unfortunately, no one told me it was going to be exceedingly strenuous. It’s nothing like ‘Grey’s Anatomy’. NOTHING, nada, zilch! Okay, passion checked, degree checked. Now, what?

I requested Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah (HSBAS) as one of my housemanship choices, and I got it. Did I regret it? No. Did I feel a hint of guilt for being away from home and FOMO (Fear of Missing Out)? YES. The reason for my choice: it had excellent surgical training, it was familiar ground, and my idol, Mr Manisekar, who needs no introduction for AIMST-ers was there. I followed almost every HPB operating theatre session during my final year in AIMST and was given the opportunity to scrub in on many cases, even alongside Mr Mani.

My kick-off in housemanship was at the department of O&G, the most feared department. It was a new feel: I was adjusting, it was nearing Raya, and Alor Setar being a balik kampung destination, was seeing a proliferation of patients. I wasn’t prepared for the long hours of tagging and the hectic life. I had loss of appetite, sleep deprivation and I also lost a significant amount of weight. It was anxiety-inducing. Some nights, I zoned-out, questioning my decisions in life. My family could not understand, but they did their best at accommodating me. Thankfully, I had amazing friends and superiors who guided me along the way. Housemanship is made difficult for a reason. We’re dealing with lives now, no more performing CPR or practicing catheterization on mannequins in the skills lab.

However, after some time, you’ll learn how to ride that wave and acquire your work-life balance.

Well, my first advice for housemanship would be befriending the nurses. They make your life less arduous. You get what you give. If you sow nasty, you’ll reap nasty. I encountered gems who would create a “rest nest” with bed, hot drinks and food during my night calls. Having scorned Raya season for the overwhelming work. I realised that it was actually one of the enjoyable times I had- being force fed Raya food by my nurses. I began to change my perception about housemanship at the end of my first posting; gaining skills, knowledge and weight.

Secondly, attitude. Be early to work and get to know your patients thoroughly. Be confident, ask questions, present your cases and don’t hide from your superiors. This will build the trust with patients, colleagues, and superiors; I’ll elaborate later. Also, do help your colleagues as this will be a boomerang you throw. This attitude had me smooth sailing through the departments of Surgery, Medicine, Paediatrics, and by the time I reached Orthopaedics, I was made a Junior Medical Officer, for the Spine subspecialty. I chose the Emergency Department as my finale, to be able to face acute situations without freezing. Being a procedure junkie, I volunteered many a times to have my shift at the chaotic Red zone - intubation, central line, chest tube, T&S, you name it, I’ve done it. By the mid of ED rotation, I received the most awaited MMC recognition. Finally, a real doctor.
Naturally, I applied to continue as a Medical Officer in HSBAS which was rejected by MOH, despite attempts to appeal. I was sent to Klinik Kesihatan Kampung Gial, in Perlis. It broke my glimmer of hope. This is where that advice - do not hide from your superiors - worked. Mr Mani advised me to gain experience in the district and reapply in a year to join the HSB surgical team. Silver lining was, one of my best friends was also sent on a Perlis adventure. I somehow had a misadventure. Two weeks into Perlis, I suffered a severe sleep-awakening neck pain with weakness of my right upper limb. I got myself admitted to Hospital Tuanku Fauziah, Perlis which didn’t end my agony. Again, the advice that I mentioned earlier worked. The pain of being a Junior MO in the Spine team helped me into getting the right aid at the right time. I was immediately transferred back by Mr Sudhagar, an Orthopaedic consultant, to HSBAS. An urgent MRI Spine revealed a C5/C6 disc prolapse impinging on the nerve. I was lucky, as there was a visiting spine surgeon from HUKM who flew in for a scoliosis case, and I was added to his operating list. I slowed down after my surgery and enjoyed my time in KK Kampung Gial, learning primary-care management. During this period, I attempted the MRCS Part A exam and succeeded. As planned, I came back to the Surgical HSB in exactly a year.

As the newbie medical officer in the team, I was sent to Urology (a specialty I disliked as a student and house officer). Who wants to play with pee? Deep down, perhaps subconsciously, I did. Following that, I went through all the surgical rotations in HSBAS- Colorectal, General Surgery, Paediatric Surgery, Plastic & Reconstructive and HPB. It felt like I was cheating on HPB, but I found my true love - Urology.

I had supportive consultants in Urology- Mr Khor & Mr Tham, who pushed me into completing the MRCS part B exam and applying for the parallel pathway program in Urology, which I did. I was accepted and I completed my four-year training: a year in beloved Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah, 2 years in Queen Elizabeth Hospital Kota Kinabalu, and 6 months respectively in Hospital Kuala Lumpur and Hospital Selayang. I got married during my training to the most supportive, understanding, and loving man. Your life partner plays a HUGE role in your life. So, pick your passion and partner wisely.

This odyssey is not for the faint-hearted, and that is why many falter. During my training, adversities came in many faces. My parents took turns being ill- one with myocardial infarction and another with Parkinsonism. I was bullied during training, which led me to the brink of quitting. It bent me pretty hard, but I did not break. My final hurdle was the exam. Preparing for the exams during training is likened to hell on earth. I was juggling work (wards, clinics, on calls, operating lists) with classes, family and trying not to have a meltdown, all at the same time. Backed with guidance from consultants, classes, my study mates, and support from family and friends, I made my way for The FRCS (Urol) Glasgow/Malaysian board of Urology exam in March 2022, exactly 10 years after MBBS, and the rest is history.

Dr. Karthikayenee Ramasamy
Urologist MBBS (AIMST) MRCS (IRE), FRCS (Urol) Glasgow/MBU

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