
[VOL. 74 APR 2020](#)

PEKAN REVIEW

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Bridging Universiti Malaysia Pahang to the world community

UMP prioritises welfare and safety of students



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Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

The government's decision to extend the Movement Control Order (MCO) from 31 March until 14 April is a direct result of the spread of the Covid-19 outbreak across the country.

During this period, Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) has postponed all service operations, and no Teaching and Learning activities online are allowed during the MCO from 18 March until 14 April 2020.

In addition, UMP has rescheduled the academic calendar for Semester 2 and Short Semester of 2019/2020 after taking into account the safety and efforts to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in the country.

Sharing the story of students who still stay on campus, the Principal of Residential College 4, Nasrul Salim, and the Alumni Department (JHEPA) and Residential Colleges took the initiative to continue the welfare programme for the students.

The meals are prepared using the allocation from the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) and other agencies for the parties.

Online programmes were also held by the Residential Colleges for male students such as short video competitions to pass the time with beneficial activities.

Similarly, the Residential College for female students held a singing contest, a competition to create a poster, and a drawing competition.

At the same time, students are constantly reminded to comply with the MCO directive such as washing hands, wearing face masks, and avoiding gathering.

According to a student from the Faculty of Industrial Sciences and Technology, Tuan Muhamad Asani Tuan, the MCO is a smart initiative to fight the spread of the Covid-19 outbreak, since the first phase of MCO has shown a positive impact.

"I feel safe to stay on the campus during this pandemic. The university Security Division takes a stern action to ensure the safety of the university," he said.

He added, the university is also taking a great responsibility of providing daily necessities to the students who stay on campus.

"For example, all principals and fellows of residential colleges are responsible for distributing food and other necessities. They also provide supplementary food from UMP Campus Pantry that is contributed by the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs programme.

"I am grateful that the university is being responsible for its students who stay on the campus.

"The approaches taken by the university indirectly reduce anxiety among students.

"In addition, students movement is also properly monitored. The staff of Security Division always perform regular checks to ensure students follow the MCO directive," he said.

Siti Nur Nabirah Amran, 22, from the Residential College 3 and Faculty of Industrial Management, the staff of Residential Colleges, is committed to the welfare of the students who are unable to return to their hometowns.

"They organise various exciting activities such as competition to create creative hashtags that comes with a prize.

"This experience is valuable and it will be cherished forever. I want to express my gratitude towards the college staff and the university for their support and care during this difficult time.

“Let us pray together that we will recover from this outbreak once and for all,” she said.

Appreciate time and life well being



By: NUR SA'ADATUL AFZAN JUSOH, OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

The global Covid-19 outbreak has affected the world entire population in general and in Pahang specifically Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) in Gambang and Pekan due to the Movement Control Order (MCO) dire

According to the director of the UMP Islamic and Human Development Centre (PIMPIN), Dr. Rashidi A landscape of daily life.

“When we talk within the scope of religion, there is so much wisdom contained therein.

“One of them is the value of time where we have been so preoccupied that we forget the health Allah has b

“We do not take advantage of the time given to us and do useless things,” he said.

He added that mental health has been a serious topic to discuss during the MCO period because it affects s



“Islam has provided guidance on mental health as outlined in *maqasid syariah*, i.e., protection of intellect (*h*

“This protection of intellect is fundamental for all students to keep their sanity throughout the MCO period to

“Thus, Islam has suggested several options to protect intellect until the end of one’s life,” he said.

Dr. Rashidi also mentioned about life wellbeing in general; how to keep a sound mind, emotion and behavior.

The main focus is to recognise the fact that intellect is an invaluable grace that Allah has bestowed to all mankind. "Use your intellect for a good cause as long it does not violate *Syariah* law.

"New strategies can be formulated to adapt to change by planning activities with positive outcomes such as sports and hobbies.

In addition, one can optimally use latest technologies in seeking religious knowledge through lectures from Islamic scholars and sciences of al-Quran, as well as recite zikr, perform *sunnah* prayer and pray to Allah for His protection and guidance.

He also added that physical activities such as light exercise can improve physical and mental strengths.

To have a sound mind, Dr. Rashidi suggested that students who love writing to utilise the free time to write articles or blogs.

"Besides, each individual must strengthen the relationship between family members, friends and lecturers.

"This is a global issue, take advantage of the free time and technology to easily communicate with each other, especially during the MCO period due to the hustle and bustle of life.

"During the MCO period, there is also a possibility that we are prone to write fake news on social media.

"For the mutual benefit and good behaviour, it is advisable to share admonition (*tazkirah*), knowledge and experiences with other students and scholars.

"Also, you may fill your free time to increase good deeds by volunteering and offering online teaching using Zoom or other platforms.

Dr. Rashidi hopes this brief sharing can be benefited by not only UMP students but all Malaysians during the MCO period.

He also prayed that Allah protect and grant us good health.

Environmentally friendly Diaclean Pera Sterilant disinfectant



Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

Diaclean Pera Sterilant, a vinegar-based disinfectant (food grade acetic acid) produced by Universiti Ma
99.9 percent microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi and protozoa.

This innovative organic disinfectant is environmentally friendly, user friendly (non-irritant), odourless, cheap
(HDL), and it does not leave any adverse effects on surfaces and users.



According to the researcher from the Faculty of Civil Engineering Technology, Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Zul in the work of disinfection as it is categorised as HDL that is free from aldehyde and alcohol.

“This general sanitiser can effectively kill all coronaviruses that naturally are enzootic, non-lipid and disinfectant (MLD).

“This product is not only suitable as a surface disinfectant for housing areas, housing spaces, schools, or the livestock industry, food processing, packaging, medical devices sterilisation, potable water and wastewater.

This product has been tested for its effectiveness as an antimicrobial agent through in vitro test in M

Research Sdn. Bhd. And in vivo biocompatibility test in Makmal Bioserasi, Centre for Research and Instr
Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

In addition, this Malaysian-made product contains peracetic acid as the active ingredient that kills corona
the standards of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United States Environmental Protection Ag

According to Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Zularisam, Diaclean is initially used to clean and sterilise synthetic
dialysis centres that help patients to get dialysis service in 50 dialysis centres across the country.



“The application of Diaclean has been extended as a disinfectant spray for general disinfection of factories,

“Currently, many chlorine-based disinfectants are used containing sodium hypochlorite, sodium chlorite, which can damage due to rusting, irritating and contaminating the environment.

“The active chlorine that reacts with organic materials in the environment can create carcinogenic byproducts (HAAs).

“The use of chemicals such as benzalkonium chloride, chloroxylenol and chlorhexidine, which are classified as effective to kill most microorganisms, especially coronavirus,” he said.

He added that apart from being inorganic, these disinfectants remain in the environment as residuals that do not break down naturally.

“With low effectiveness and high cost, these inorganic disinfectants are believed to create not environmental pollution and cause harm to operators and users.

“There are also highly effective high-level disinfectants (HDL) such as hydrogen peroxide and aldehyde which are smelly, costly and carcinogenic, as well as affect the respiratory system,” he said.

Diaclean product has JAKIM halal status. It is registered under the Medical Device Authority (MDA), meets the Medical Device Regulation 2012 by TUV SUD Malaysia and complies with the ISO13485 (International Organization for Standardization Medical Device) standard.

This disinfectant is produced by UMP Renal Care Sdn. Bhd., a UMP spin-off company, in 2008, and it is currently used in various hospitals.

In the meantime, several Covid-19 infected areas had been disinfected following the procedures established by the health authorities.

UMP also carried out disinfection operations in several locations within the campus to ensure the campus was safe from an outbreak.

The disinfection operations were performed within the campus areas by a subsidiary of UMP Holdings Sdn. Bhd., UMP Pera Sterilant.

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ISSN 2180-3099



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