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**UMP partners with Indian Institute of Technology to address future challenges**

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Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India on March 7, 2019.

The MoU has been signed by the Vice-Chancellor of UMP, Professor Dato' Sri Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim and Professor Pramod Kumar Jain. The Deans of Research from both sides witnessed the event. The MoU seeks collaboration (both students and staff) and collaborative research for technological advancements and social welfare.

The Indian Institute of Technology, Varanasi (routinely referred to as IIT BHU) is a public engineering and technology institute in the northern state of India (Uttar Pradesh).

The institute has a long legacy in producing engineering and technological graduates for over a century. It has produced renowned engineers and technologists, most successful tech entrepreneurs, highly cited educational leaders, and public civil servants (<https://iitbhu.ac.in/>).

By signing the MoU, the Director Professor Jain said, that owing to the emerging research and education initiatives to integrate its educational and research excellence by joining their hands through the world-class

“To this point, joining hands with UMP is a step forward as they have marked a global presence in less than a decade, thus testifying their commitment in engineering and technological education for societal well-being,” he said.

Professor Dato' Sri Dr. Daing said that the MoU with IIT BHU is a landmark in the history of UMP; the MoU will help UMP to strategically position itself in the emerging world scenario of disruptive technologies, artificial intelligence,

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The UMP students would immensely benefit from the cross-cultural interaction with IIT BHU students and a

As for the UMP's academics, the collaborative research and publications with their counterparts in IIT BHU their visibility in the Malaysian scenario has already been certified by the Malaysian Research Assessment year 2017.

He further added that UMP's emergence as the No.1 technological University in Malaysia by the QS 2019 the radar of many renowned institutions including IIT BHU.

He also thanked the legal units of both institutions and staffs engaged in realizing this MoU.

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## **UMP awarded prestigious Motorola Solutions Foun**

By: IR. DR. NURUL HAZLINA NORDIN, DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY COMMUNITY NETWORK

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) was recently awarded the prestigious Motorola Solutions Foundation Outreach Program' at a ceremony in Penang on March 1, 2019.

Motorola Solutions Foundation – the charitable and philanthropic arm of Motorola Solutions Inc founded organizations that support and enhance public safety programmes as well as technology and engineering e

Funded by the Foundation and established back in 2017, UMP STEM Lab stands for Science, Technology Its long-term goal is to ensure that teachers are provided with the appropriate additional training courses education in schools.

Now with the RM82,000.00 grant, the UMP STEM Lab can continue to hold activities, such as after-s programmes like the Pahang National Hackathon and Pahang National Foxhunting, to nurture students' inte

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“The Motorola Solutions Foundation is honoured and privileged to support such project and program Blakely.

“We’re proud to be a part of organizations which continue to embrace and foster innovations, build positive impact on communities,” he added.

Concurring, UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato’ Sri Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the university youngsters to see, think and explore for themselves, they would marvel at the many possibilities of their future.

“The overall aim of having this lab is to facilitate and boost the awareness in Science, Technology, Engineering important role it plays in life, generally,” he said, adding that STEM is also significant in creating job opportunities.

According to the Director of Department of Industry Community Network (ICON), Ir. Dr. Nurul Hazlina Nor include Open Source programming, such as mBlock, Arduino.cc, MIT App Inventor Programming as well as others.

“The lab also covers topics like radio wave propagation, trans-receivers and antenna designs. Using the example, students can locate beacons (fox) which transmit Morse codes signals.

“Survey on interest in such subject matters, conducted at the end of 2018, showed that 94 percent of the p

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in STEM-related fields.

“For 2019, we are looking forward to boost the number of engagements, especially in after-school programmes Pahang National Hackathon and Pahang National Foxhunting. New programs, such as Robotics, are also lined up for this year,” she said.

Last year, UMP STEM Lab managed to attract a total of 350 participants, although initial targeted number the after-school programming classes, “Career in STEM” talks and the signature programmes Pahang Foxhunting.

For 2019, Motorola Solutions Foundation grants will support programmes to help more than three million community members around the globe.

There is also a specific focus on providing grants to programmes that impact under-represented populations with disabilities, veterans and others.

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## **Functional dairy food seen as potential remedy to cancer**

By: SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

A team of researchers from the Faculty of Industrial Science & Technology (FSTI) at Universiti Malaysia undergraduates – has embarked on a study of possible remedy for cancer and diabetes via the development

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Headed by FSTI lecturer, Dr Jaya Vejayan Palliah, the research has successfully identified selected herbal plants capable of dual functions – to convert fresh milk that has gone through its coagulation processes into curd and to create further biological activities.

“As we are well aware, societies in developed nations are increasingly concerned about healthy diet, to the extent of functional food,” said Dr Jaya.

“Our very own research into such functional food was originally mooted in 2016, with the initial intent to study the use of Viper snake venom as a milk coagulant,” he emphasized.

At the initial stage of the research, he said, the group of researchers was able to isolate and extract the enzymes from the snake’s venom.

However, due to safety concerns, they eventually turned to herbal plants to expand their research findings into herbal-based food products.

“It was certainly a challenge for us to identify and locate herbal plants that can act as such coagulant. After testing several possible herbs,” he highlighted.

According to Dr. Jaya, these selected herbs, recognized as super-coagulants, were subsequently formulated into functional food and compounded constituents are hyper-active.

“These hydrolysis enzymes can act as the milk protein-cutter, and convert the liquid form into a solid one. They also have anti-oxidant, anti-diabetes and anti-microbes.”

Malaysia’s tropical rainforest, with its biodiversity of plants and herbs, is seen by many to hold sources of natural remedies for various diseases.

It is also a cradle of functional food sources, attracting the interest of the global population as they continue to seek for healthier food options.

Dr. Jaya, who coveted the gold and special medals at UMP’s CITREX 2019 (Staff Category), said the team is currently in the clinical testing to fortify the capability of the super-coagulants, in order to substantiate the university’s application for the commercialization of the product.

He’s hopeful that the university’s research will get its due attention from external agencies, which could lead to reap mutual benefits in business diversification from the production of long-lasting and quality curd.

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