





Rapid changes taking place in the world today, along with increasing urbanisation and industrialisation culminated in environmental problems. Engineers and other professionals are continually facing the daunting task of managing waste and wastewater issues. Recognizing the need for education and training of personnel that can handle such problems efficiently, the Environmental Engineering Department was set up in 1976. It aims to train students to become leaders in civil engineering with environment and sustainability concerns in mind.

The department has developed and promoted forward-looking academic research and internationalisation by having academic staff and research fellow from overseas, as well as establishing joint-research efforts with foreign institutions. The expansion within the last four years has increased the strength of the department, with 17 out of 23 academic staff holding PhD degree (74%). The Department has been progressively reforming its curriculum to include emerging technologies and their applications to environmental engineering. Along with the Faculty, the Department has introduced many courses to be chosen as elective courses in the senior years, be they at undergraduate or post-graduate levels, towards producing graduates with various levels expertise with a specialised background.



Faculty of Civil Engineering Annual Report 2009

73

Besides teaching as the core business, the department is also highly dynamic in research and consultancy especially in the field of water quality management, water and wastewater treatment, membrane technology and waste management. The Department trains students to become research professionals, well-versed in the latest technologies, in tandem with the Faculty's motto to be Always Ahead. The well-qualified academic staff and the ever-improving environmental laboratory have been the backbone of the Department's success in attracting both local and foreign undergraduate and post-graduate students.

The Department also values the balanced development of its students and the importance of having multicultural experience amongst students. Together with the Faculty, the Department and the academic staff organize visits to foreign countries, where students are exposed to foreign universities and international experience with a global perspective. The latest visits include the Global Outreach Programme - International Student Exchange (MALINDO '90) and the "Eye Opener in Unique Taiwan. A number of activities have been carried out by the department. The activities are the Global Outreach Programme, seminar and the Alumni Meeting. Apart from that the lectures also attended specialised short courses and colloquiums.

## **ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT**

No.	Activities	Date	Venue
1.	Global Outreach Programme - International Student Exchange (MALINDO '90) - Programme Coordinator - Aznah Noor Anuar	06/12/2009 - 13/12/2009	Universiti Indonesia, Jakarta & Institut Teknologi Bandung
2.	JSPS – VCC Comprehensive Seminar - Prof. Mohd Razman Salim	12/11/2009 - 13/11/2009	Eastin Hotel, Penang.
3.	<ul> <li>Invited as Key Researcher of JENSEY's of Young Researcher</li> <li>Paper Presented: Sustainable Environment and Green Technology for Developing Countries (Mohd. Fadhil Md. Din)</li> </ul>	20/08/2009 - 06/09/2009	Nagoya Institute of Japan.
4.	Alumni meeting – IRDA Korea Institute of Science and Technology – Zubair Ahmed	28/08/2009 - 31/08/2009	Bangkok
5.	MST2009 organised by UTM, - Paper Presented: Biological nutrient removal and changes in microbial community structure in a MBR at different organic loading rates - Zubair Ahmed	11/05/2009 - 15/05/2009	Corus Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
6.	Specialised Short Courses on Membrane Technology for Water and Wastewater Treatment - Prince Khalid Chair for Water Research	27/06/2009 - 28/06/2009	Civil Engineering Department, King Saud University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
7.	Colloquium "Study on Global New Water Pollution by PFCs and Countermeasure - Latest POPs Issues" by visiting Professor (Prof. Shigeo Fujii, Kyoto University)	01/10/2009	Seminar Room, FKA
8.	Introduction to Cleaner Production	05/10/2009 - 10/10/2009	Naza Hotel, Johor Bahru