

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
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'Belajar sains mesti seronok'

» Ubah suasana pembelajaran capai sasaran 60 peratus pelajar

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Sains boleh dicapai sekiranya suasana pembelajaran mata pelajaran itu diubah kepada bersifat mesra pelajar.

Ketika ini, mata pelajaran Sains pada peringkat sekolah rendah dan menengah masih berorientasi kaedah pengajaran dan pembelajaran (P&P) menyebabkan majoriti pelajar hanya mendengar serta menerima apa yang disampaikan guru.

Perlu diubah segera

Menteri Pendidikan II, Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh, berkata hanya 37 peratus pelajar memilih aliran sains pada peringkat sekolah menengah dengan jumlah itu masih jauh berbanding sasaran 60 peratus yang



Idris (tengah) melihat robot buatan Malaysia sebagai gimik perasmian Pesta Sains Kejuruteraan di Pusat Sains Negara, Kuala Lumpur, semalam. [FOTO MUHD ZAABA ZAKERIA / BH]

diletakkan kerajaan.

Katanya, guru mata pelajaran Sains perlu mula menggunakan bahan berasaskan teknologi bagi menarik minat pelajar dan kaedah

pembelajaran perlu diubah dengan guru bertindak menjadi penyelia bukan mengajar.

"Suasana dan persekitaran sekolah perlu diubah segera dan

pendedahan awal kepada sains perlu diberi kepada murid seawal mungkin agar mereka cenderung kepada aliran sains pada peringkat menengah.

"Kerajaan meletakkan sasaran 60:40 antara pelajar sains dan sastera kerana Malaysia memerlukan ramai sumber manusia bidang seperti kejuruteraan antara enam ke tujuh tahun lagi," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika sidang media selepas merasmikan Pesta Sains Kuala Lumpur di Pusat Sains Negara di sini, semalam.

Hadir sama Penasihat Sains kepada Perdana Menteri, Ir Prof Emeritus Datuk Seri Dr Zakri Abdul Hamid dan Presiden Akademi Kejuruteraan dan Teknologi ASEAN, Datuk Ir Hong Lee Pee.

Idris berkata, melalui Pelan Pendidikan Malaysia 2013-201, kerajaan mahu memajukan Pendidikan Sains, Teknologi, Kejuruteraan dan Matematik (STEM) secara menyeluruh serta lebih meluas kepada setiap pelajar.

Beri tumpuan sekolah luar bandar

"Dakwa bahawa pelajar bandar memiliki kelebihan dalam mata pelajaran Sains tidak tepat kerana kerajaan juga memberi tumpuan kepada sekolah luar bandar malah dalam aspek tertentu mereka mendapat lebih.

"Cuma pelajar bandar mendapat pendedahan awal. Atas sebab itu guru sama ada di bandar atau luar bandar perlu memainkan peranan dalam menyampaikan kepada pelajar bahawa Sains adalah menyeronokkan," katanya.

**KERATAN AKHBAR
NEW SUNDAY TIMES (NEWS) : MUKA SURAT 12
TARIKH : 27 APRIL 2014 (AHAD)**

'Only 37pc in Science stream'

KUALA LUMPUR: Only 37 per cent of students in schools have elected to enter the Science stream, a figure far below the government's target of achieving the Technical Science and Literature Policy with a 60:40 ratio, said Second Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh.

He said the low enrolment was because the students were less interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics subjects.

"The effort to increase the number of Science-stream students needs the cooperation

of parents, the community and private sector in order to cultivate the interest of students in these subjects," he said after officiating at the Kuala Lumpur Science Fair 2014 at the National Science Centre here yesterday.

Present were the science adviser to the Prime Minister, Prof Emeritus Datuk Seri Zakri Abdul Hamid, Asean Academy of Engineering and Technology (AAET) president Datuk Hong Lee Pee, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman president Prof Datuk Chuah Hean Teik, and NSC director Assoc Prof Dr Irmawati Ramli. **Bernama**

Get children keen on science while they are still young, parents urged

KUALA LUMPUR: An interest in science should be instilled in children while they are still young, says Education Minister II Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh.

"Parents can be involved with their children in the Stem (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning process by taking them to science exhibitions," he said.

Idris said there really needed to be an increase in the number of science students in the country as Stem studies were fundamental to a nation whose economy was based on knowledge and innovation.

"If we look at developed countries, like the United States, Germany, South Korea and Japan, many of the people had basics in Stem as they had been exposed to science since young," he told reporters after opening the [Kuala Lumpur Science Fair \(KLSEF\) 2014](#) at the [National Science Centre \(NSC\)](#) here yesterday.

Idris lamented that only 37% of students in the country had elected to enter the science stream, a figure far below the Government's target of a 60:40 ratio in the Technical Science and Literature Policy.

"The effort to increase the number of science stream students needs the cooperation of parents, the community and the private sector.

"At present, the role of the teacher is to teach in the classroom and ensure knowledge is transferred to the students.

"But what is more effective is the students learning by themselves in school and the teacher's role is only as a facilitator to ensure a smooth learning process," Idris said.

Present at the event were science advisor to the Prime Minister Prof Emeritus Datuk Seri Zakri Abdul Hamid, Asean Academy of Engineering and Technology (AAET) president Datuk Hong Lee Pee, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (Utar) president Prof Datuk Chuah Hean Teik and NSC director Assoc Prof Dr Irmawati Ramli.

The three-day science fair that ends today is jointly organised by AAET, Utar, the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology, the Institution of Engineering Malaysia, and the NSC. Admission is free.

The organisers expect more than 10,000 visitors, mainly school students to the fair, which features award-winning Stem projects by students, engineering science projects, industry exhibitors and quizzes. — Bernama

Standards of excellence

UNIVERSITI Teknologi PETRONAS' Centralised Analytical Laboratory's (CAL) was recently accredited by Standards Malaysia for calibration and testing capabilities with the MS ISO/IEC 17025:2005 certification.

CAL met not only the technical and management requirements for testing and calibration competency, but also for operating within MS ISO 9001, Quality Management Systems standards.

This means that CAL's results can be trusted as reliable and dependable. This is no small achievement as stringent standards and requirements have to be met.

Such accreditation keeps CAL on track and ensures that it maintains competence and conducts its work in accordance with the standards.

The accreditation also endorses CAL's personnel, equipment for measurement and methods of testing.

CAL is the first laboratory of its kind in Malaysia to achieve accreditation for measurement of surface area of catalysts and catalyst carriers under the

Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (SAMM).

This accolade recognises CAL's technical competence to perform specific testing, measurement and calibration.

The scope of accreditation for CAL encompasses the surface area measurements of catalyst and catalyst carriers containing pores between 2nm and 50nm, which is within mechanical and physical testing of materials.

CAL is one of the service centres established under the university's Research & Innovation Office and its goal is to promote research excellence by ensuring that analytical services comply with international standards.

CAL head Associate Professor Dr Noor Asmawati Mohd Zabidi said it had state-of-the-art analytical instrumentation. It provides analytical services to researchers from UTP and organisations in green technology, renewable energy, nanotechnology, electronics, environmental, oil and gas, and petrochemicals. SAMM accreditation recognises CAL as being on a par with similar laboratories around the world.

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Fadilah Baharin (second from right) with Associate Professor Dr Noor Asmawati Mohd Zabidi (second from left) at UTP's Centralised Analytical Laboratory.

1st private varsity to get Standards accreditation

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CAL laboratories have Energy-Filtered High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope (EF-HRTEM), Transmission Electron Microscope sample preparation facilities, Variable Pressure Field-Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (VP-FESEM), Universal Scanning Probe Microscope (AFM/STM/DFM), Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer with pyrolyzer (GCMS), Liquid Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (LCMS), X-Ray Photoelectron Spectrometer (XPS), Accelerated Surface Area and Porosimetry System (ASAP), Fourier

Transform Infra-Red Spectrometer with high vacuum-purge system (FTIR-HVPS), RAMAN Spectrometer, Particle Size/Zeta Potential Analyser and Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (AAS).

In presenting the accreditation certificate to UTP vice-chancellor Datuk Ir (Dr) Abdul Rahim Hashim, Standards Malaysia director-general Fadilah Baharin expressed her hope that UTP would see this achievement as the initial step in its relationship with the association.

"In future, we hope to further collaborate with UTP with the introduction of standards in the academic

courses and syllabus to foster a culture of quality and excellence in education."

Rahim said UTP placed priority on ensuring that its academic programmes conformed to international standards while also meeting the needs and expectations of industry.

"With a vision to become a leader in technology education and centre for creativity and innovation, the university has developed into one of the top universities in Malaysia over a short span of time."

He added that UTP had plans and strategies to ensure laboratory teaching and learning processes, and research, consultancy and development

activities for students and staff.

These are conducted through the provision of adequate, reliable and well-maintained engineering laboratory equipment, facilities and utilities that comply with rules and regulations as well as conform to international standards. UTP has three laboratories certified by Standards Malaysia, including CAL.

UTP's Control and Instrumentation Laboratory was also conferred the MS ISO/IEC 17025:2005 certification.

This laboratory functions as one of the facilities developed for the Electrical and Electronics Engineering programme at UTP.

Under the custody of UTP Laboratory Facilities and Services Department, this laboratory teaches process control encompassing measurement, calibration, instrumentation, operations and control. In 2012, UTP became the first private university in Malaysia to receive an accreditation by Standards Malaysia. Its Universal Testing Machine Laboratory was accredited under SAMM based on MS ISO/IEC 17025:2005 - 'General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories'.

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