

Asian Chemical Biology Initiative (ACBI) Program in UMS



A brief meeting of ACBI delegates with Tun Dato' Seri Zaki Azmi, UMS Chairman of BOD



Seeking for potential research collaboration with the ACBI delegates



Briefing on the interview session given by Ms Nakashima, Prof. Uesugi's Administrative Assistance and Program Coordinator of ACBI



Face-to-face Interview Session



Open lectures on Chemical Biology

The Asian Chemical Biology (ACBI) is an International joint program of top-notch Asian chemical biology researchers with two main missions: to promote chemical biology throughout Asia and to accelerate of international collaborations in the region. For the year of 2014, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) through Faculty of Science and Natural Resources (FSSA) was chosen by the ACBI as their 4th venue after Hanoi 2012, Bangkok 2013 and Manila 2014. The Program was held on the 19th December 2014 at the Auditorium of Postgraduate Studies Centre UMS with two main sessions including interview and open lecture sessions. There were 25 FSSA students from the Program of Industrial Chemistry and Biotechnology, were selected to be face-to-face interviewed by 9 leading Professors in chemical biology from Japan, Korea, China and Singapore, which was led by Prof. Motonari Uesugi, from the University of Kyoto, Japan, whom also the Chief Organizer of ACBI. The selected students were those whose GPA are 3.0 – 4.0, with high English proficiency (MUET Band 4.0 or above). While for the open lecture session, it was attended by UMS Faculty members, postgrads as well as undergrads students from FSSA and other Faculties, where the lectures given by the 9 Professors on introduction of chemical biology and their ongoing research. Earlier that day, a brief meeting between the UMS Chairman of the Board of Directors, Tun Dato' Seri Zaki Bin Azmi, with the Professors was initiated in FSSA communal room, to seek for mutual interests as well as potential collaboration between UMS and ACBI. The subject matter was then further discussed with the UMS Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Prof. Dr. Shahril Yusof, at BMU FSSA. Before lunch break, the delegate managed to make a visit at Natural Product Laboratory in FSSA as well as in Biotechnology Research Institute, UMS. This jointly organized program, by ACBI and UMS, was not only opens opportunities for Professors



Lecture given by the Director of Chemical Genomics Research Group



Dinner at Nyonya House Restaurant, 1Borneo



Dinner at Nyonya House Restaurant, 1Borneo



Dinner at Nyonya House Restaurant, 1Borneo

and UMS staff and students to meet with each other and find mutual goals and interests, but also opens fellowship opportunities in Japan, Korea, China and Singapore with scholarship chances. As a starting point, through the interview, 4 undergrads students have been selected to do internship at Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica, Shanghai, China this coming July 2015 and few other students have been identified to be offered a place to further their studies at higher level at their Universities. The successful event was then ended with a nice dinner at Nyonya House Restaurant in 1Borneo Hypermall.