

WELCOME SPEECH FROM

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9th INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS & TECHNOLOGY  
EDUCATION CONFERENCE (SMTEC)  
8 NOVEMBER 2017 (WEDNESDAY) | 10:00 AM  
DEWAN RESITAL, UMS

Assalamualaikum wbt and Salam Sejahtera

**Salutations (TBD)**

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Science, Mathematics and Technology Education (SMTE) 2017 organised by Universiti Malaysia Sabah in collaboration with Curtin University Australia.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to our Keynote Speakers and all Conference participants to Kota Kinabalu. It is my sincere hope that your presence and the sharing of your extensive expertise and experience will contribute towards supporting initiatives for the improvement of teaching and learning quality in the fields of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education.

I believe the sharing of knowledge, research findings, and best practices in the teaching and learning in these fields would help us make informed decisions in preparing our younger generations to not only face the challenges associated with Industrial Revolution 4.0 but also seize the various opportunities that are presented.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Organising an international conference demands dedication and serious commitment from all parties concerned, more so when it involves two universities sited in two different continents. It is my sincere hope that this Conference will serve to further strengthen the existing relationship and collaboration between Universiti Malaysia Sabah and Curtin University, and also Malaysia and Australia in the educational sphere. I believe the run-up to this Conference would have involved numerous meetings and many man hours just to reach this stage today.

There is much knowledge and sharing on offer in this Conference which I am certain will benefit each and every participant here and justify the time, effort and expenditure set aside for attending this event.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The theme of the Conference is *Sustaining Science, Mathematics and Technology Education for Future Generations*.

This opportune theme echoes aptly the vision and mission of this institution where the learning, teaching, research and publications in these fields are positioned for UMS to become an innovative university. However, as we endeavour to achieve material gains from science, mathematics and technology education, we must also strive to produce holistic future generations with solid moral values as well as mould assertive, open-minded, God-fearing and patriotic individuals.

These elements are essential to ensure a society that is able to sustain itself through rigorous development and change. Without these characteristics, future generations would be without soul and without vigor. This scenario is a likelihood that we do not want, and which we need to prevent.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

SMTE 2017 acknowledges the contribution of teachers and researchers to human development, which is critical in producing knowledgeable and skilled youths to boost economic activities that benefit our society. In honouring the teaching profession through academic activities, SMTE 2017 is envisioned as contributing to the transformation of teaching into a profession of choice, which is one of the shifts outlined in the Malaysia Education Blueprint.

On a final note, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the UMS Faculty of Psychology and Education and Curtin University, Australia for their success in organising this scholastic meeting of minds. To the participants, have a fruitful Conference experience and an amazing stay in Kota Kinabalu.

Assalamualaikum and Thank You.