

Vice Chancellor's Speech

21st Malaysian Analytical Chemistry Symposium

Yang Berusaha Prof. Dr. Rosnah Ismail, TNC (R&I)
 Prof. Dr. Sanuddin Hj Tahir, TNC (A&I)
 Prof. Dr. Amran Ahmed, TNC (HEP & Alumni)
 Prof. Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah, Dekan SST

Prof. Madya Dr. Zaini Hamzah, President ANALIS
Prof. Dr. Marcus Jopony, Chairperson SKAM-21

Deputy Deans, SST
ANALIS Central Committee Members
Datuk-Datuk, symposium participants
Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamalaikum..

First of all I would like to thank the School of Science and Technology UMS and the Organizing Committee for inviting me to this Dinner cum Opening Ceremony in conjunction with the 21st Malaysian Analytical Chemistry Symposium (SKAM-21). On behalf of Universiti Malaysia Sabah, it is my great pleasure to welcome all participants to the Symposium, which is being held at the University's campus.

I understand that the responds to this Symposium is very encouraging. In fact this will be recorded as the largest gathering of chemists or chemistry-related researchers in Sabah in recent years. Without doubt, Analytical Chemistry is one of the important fields of Chemistry. It's applications is very diverse and this is re-emphasized by the scientific papers being presented in the oral and poster sessions during this Symposium. In general Chemical and instrumental analysis is required, among others, for evaluation, validation and quantification of specific analyte or product characteristics.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Traditionally, analytical work is carried out according to classical methods. Nowadays, however, most analysis are done using state-of-the-art instruments. Consequently, the analysis become more rapid, accurate and sensitive. Recently, there was a great interest worldwide on Melamine contamination in milk and other associated

products. In Malaysia, the analytical instruments (such as GC/MS and LC/MS) in a number of analytical and research labs were quickly configured or upgraded to handle with the screening of local and imported food products.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Analytical chemistry is a dynamic field of Chemistry. New or improved techniques are constantly being developed while the instruments are becoming more sophisticated. For example, the advancement in the analysis of Performance Enhancing Drugs has resulted in the declining trend of doping in sports. This was evident in recent major sporting events, including the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Amongst the emerging analytical techniques is the application of chemical and biological sensors. This technique has wide applications, and is relatively cheap and rapid, besides being equally sensitive and accurate. I am happy to note that a number of papers, including a plenary paper, will deal with this subject during the Symposium.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I understand that the participants of this Symposium are a good mixture of senior academics/researchers, young enthusiastic researchers and post graduate students. I hope you have an active interaction and fruitful deliberations. This forum should also be the platform for you to enhance and/or to establish research collaboration and networking. This linkages can be as minimum as the access to the analytical instruments required for the particular research.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Hosting this major scientific meeting successfully is certainly a great effort. I congratulate the School of Science and Technology UMS and the Organizing Committee for the commitment and hard work. The University strongly support this kind of activity and will always renders the necessary assistance required. I hope this annual Symposium will come back to Sabah in the not too distant future. Last but not least I wish you all a pleasant stay in Kota Kinabalu.

On this note, I hereby declare that the **21st Malaysian Analytical Chemistry Symposium** officially opened.