

Utbpulse

8th Issue : 26 March 2016

Universiti Teknologi Brunei



**A special issue to
commemorate UTB's
30th anniversary**

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Editorial Board

Hj Ady Syarmin bin Hj Taib, Siti Asmahlati Bolkini binti A Hj Ahmad,
Zasika Musdi, Thulasimani Munohsamy , Siti Noorfatimah binti Haji
Awang Safar, Muhammad Norfauzi bin POKDPDP Hj Dani

Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam tidak ada halangan terhadap cadangan dan sokongan bagi pertukaran nama Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB) kepada Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB).

21 Jamadilawal 1437
01 Mac 2016



YANG Dimulikan Menteri Pelajaran dan Kesihatan mendengar penerangan dari para pensyarah bahagian Komputer institut itu ketika tetamu kehormat itu melawat ke bilik-bilik kuliah dan makmal (atas). Sementara gambar-gambar bawah kelihatan sebahagian dari jemputan khas terdiri dari pegawai-pegawai kanan Kerajaan dan para diplomat asing ke negara ini yang hadir di majlis itu



TETAMU kehormat, Menteri Pelaj

59 PENU

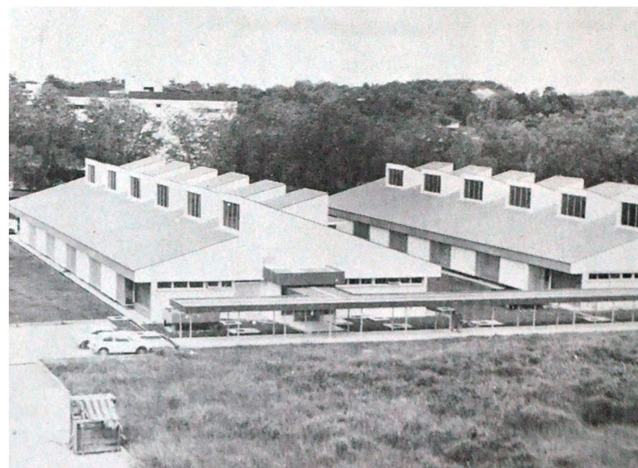
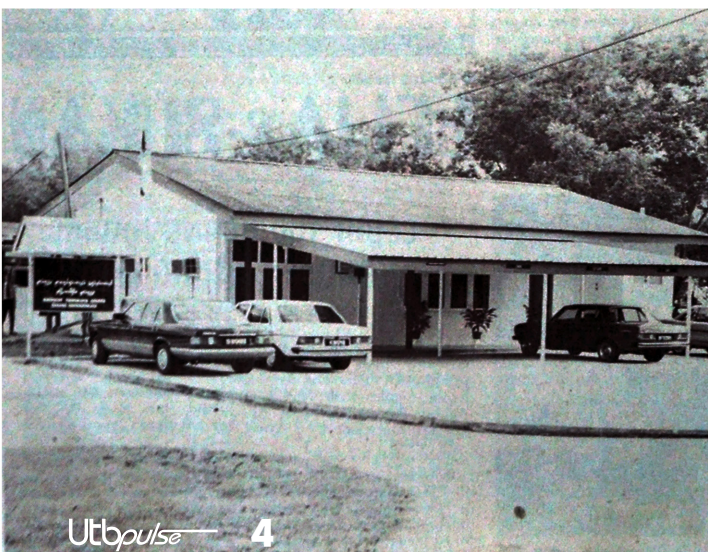
Oleh: Abd Karim
Gambar: Amat M



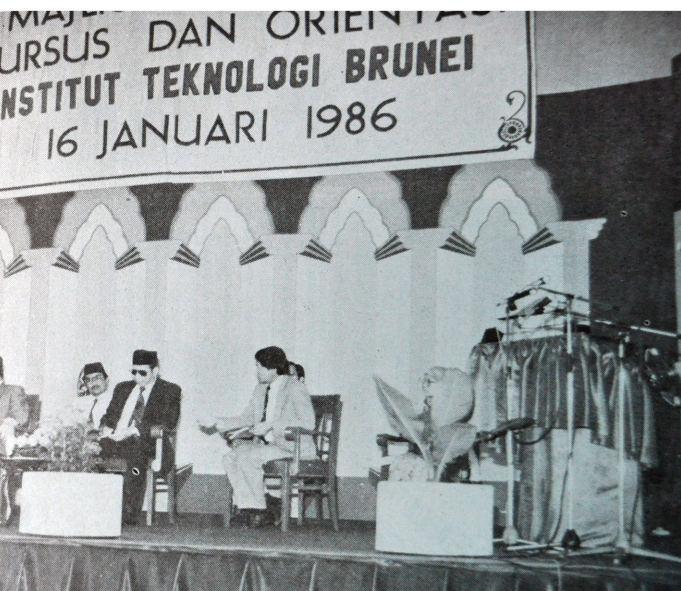
BIDANG pendidikan yang merupakan asas utama dalam perkembangan negara kita kini melangkah setapak lagi dengan penubuhan Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB).

Menteri Pelajaran dan Kesihatan Yang Dimulikan Pehin Orang Ka Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Aziz telah meresmikan Majlis Memulakan Kursus dan Orientasi Institut Teknologi Brunei pada hari Khamis lepas.

Institut itu yang berkampus sementara di Maktab Teknik Sultana Saiful Rijal ditubuhkan bertujuan antara lain bagi menyediakan



BANGUNAN perpustakaan dan makmal komputer Institut Teknologi Brunei di kampus sementara di Maktab Teknik (atas).
BANGUNAN pentadbiran Institut Teknologi Brunei yang terletak di kawasan kampus sementara di Maktab Teknik



...ran dan Kesihatan dan pegawai-pegawai kanan Kerajaan yang hadir di Majlis Memulakan Kursus dan Orientasi ITB.



MENTERI Pelajaran dan Kesihatan Yang Dimulikan Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Aziz menandakan perasmian Memulakan Kursus dan Orientasi Institut Teknologi Brunei (atas)

INSTITUT MULAKAN KURSUS DI ITB

...n bin Haji Abu Bakar
...loksin

tenaga terlatih dalam bidang teknik, pentadbiran dan perdagangan peringkat perengahan bagi keperluan pembangunan negara dan pihak swasta.

la menawarkan kursus dalam bidang Perdagangan (Business Studies), Komputer (Computer Studies) dan Kejuruteraan Elektrik dan Elektronik (Electrical and Electronic Engineering).

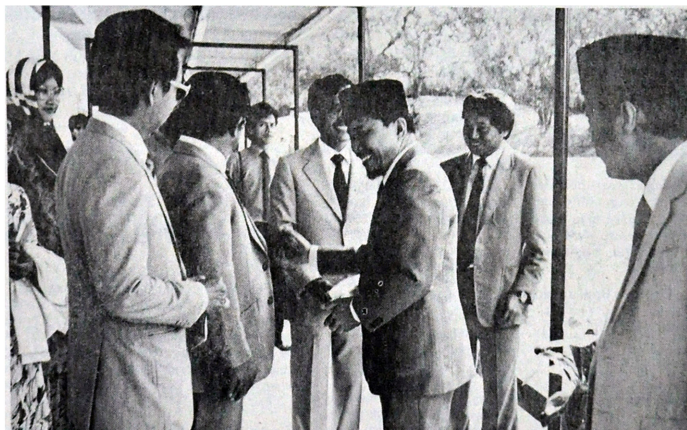
Bagi semester pertama ini seramai 59 penuntut telah diterima bagi mengikuti bidang-bidang berkenaan, iaitu 54 orang penuntut yang menerima dermasiswa dan lima orang lagi kakitangan yang menerima dermasiswa Latihan Dalam Perkhidmatan.

Bahagian Pentadbiran di institut ini terdiri dari Institut yang dijawat oleh Awang Mustafa bin Abu Bakar, Timbalan Pengarah, Pendaftar dan Perpustakaan.

Menurut Pendaftar Institut itu, Awang Azaharaini Haji Md. Jamil, kemasukan ke Institut itu umumnya mengandungi dua syarat iaitu syarat umum dan syarat khusus.

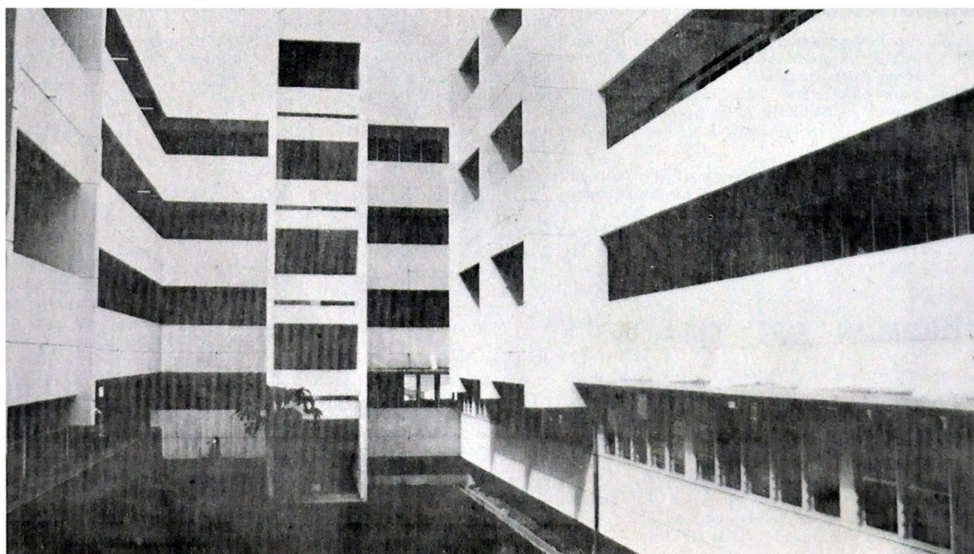
Syarat umum, calon-calon mestilah mempunyai 4 mata pelajaran dengan kepujian di peringkat 'O' termasuk Bahasa Melayu. Syarat khusus pula ialah tertakluk kepada jurusan kursus lazimnya mempunyai 4 mata pelajaran dengan kepujian di peringkat 'O' termasuk satu mata pelajaran berkenaan di peringkat 'A'.

Kampus tetap Institut Teknologi Brunei nanti terletak di kawasan Kampong Tungku berdekatan dengan kampus kekal Universiti Brunei Darussalam yang mempunyai keluasan 200 ekar.



MENTERI Pelajaran dan Kesihatan Yang Dimulikan Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Aziz dialu-alukan oleh para pegawai kanan Kementerian Pelajaran dan Kesihatan sebaik-baik saja ketibaannya bagi majlis Memulakan Kursus dan Orientasi ITB (kiri).

BILIK kuliah dan makmal komputer dan Kejuruteraan Elektrik dan Elektronik terletak di Tingkat Dua dan Tiga bangunan Maktab Teknik Sultan Saiful Rijal. - (bawah).

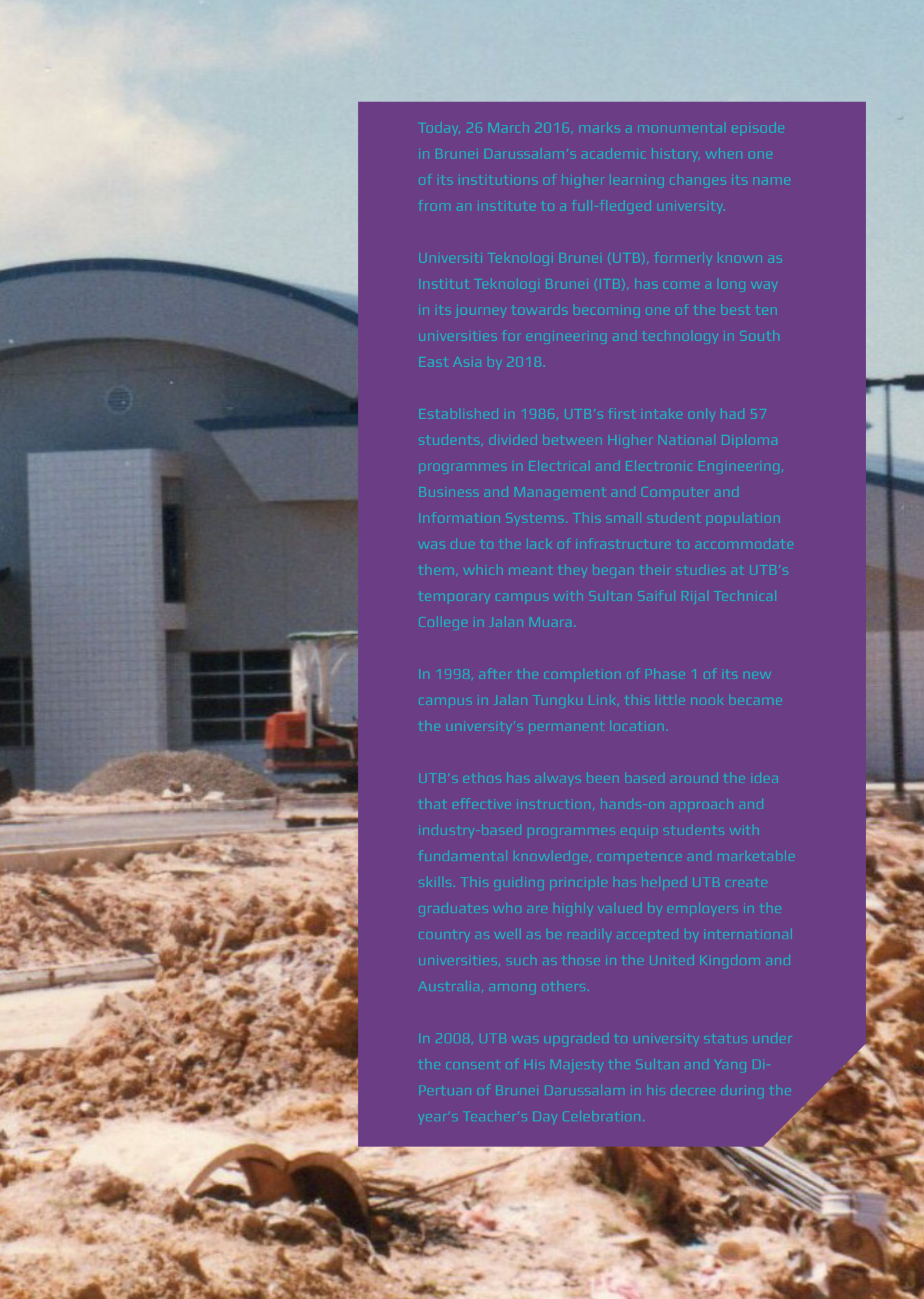


Sultan Saiful Rijal

Sultan Saiful Rijal.

HISTORY





Today, 26 March 2016, marks a monumental episode in Brunei Darussalam's academic history, when one of its institutions of higher learning changes its name from an institute to a full-fledged university.

Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB), formerly known as Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB), has come a long way in its journey towards becoming one of the best ten universities for engineering and technology in South East Asia by 2018.

Established in 1986, UTB's first intake only had 57 students, divided between Higher National Diploma programmes in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Business and Management and Computer and Information Systems. This small student population was due to the lack of infrastructure to accommodate them, which meant they began their studies at UTB's temporary campus with Sultan Saiful Rijal Technical College in Jalan Muara.

In 1998, after the completion of Phase 1 of its new campus in Jalan Tungku Link, this little nook became the university's permanent location.

UTB's ethos has always been based around the idea that effective instruction, hands-on approach and industry-based programmes equip students with fundamental knowledge, competence and marketable skills. This guiding principle has helped UTB create graduates who are highly valued by employers in the country as well as be readily accepted by international universities, such as those in the United Kingdom and Australia, among others.

In 2008, UTB was upgraded to university status under the consent of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in his decree during the year's Teacher's Day Celebration.



Soon after, tremendous developments have taken place, including the expansion of its academic programme portfolio; establishment of strategic partnerships with industries and universities both locally and internationally; programme accreditation by professional bodies; and intensification of research activities.

In 2009, the university started offering undergraduate degree programmes, followed by Masters by Research and PhD programmes in 2010.

In research, UTB strives to become a university that can contribute to the enrichment of knowledge and resolution of contemporary issues. Its research efforts focus on three branches: Oil and Gas, Green Technology and Water.

In 2011, the UTB Centre for Transport Research (CfTR) was established to carry out research activities that include policy studies, transport modelling, and intelligent transport system, and focuses on the areas of Transport Safety, Highway and Geotechnics, and Traffic.

Meanwhile, in 2014, the Centre for Innovative Engineering was founded with the aim to become a dynamic centre for multidisciplinary and innovative translational research. In recent years, research output in the form of indexed publications has shown encouraging development. The number of Scopus-Indexed documents published in 2015 was 99, compared to 58 in 2014.

In 2016, UTB introduced Taught Masters programmes in Engineering, Business and Computing. It continues to maintain its successful hands-on approach in teaching and learning, taking into account the relevancy of its curricula to industrial needs. These have been the hallmark of its successful initial HND programmes.

Today, UTB has some 2,169 students and 145 faculty members. To date, the institution has produced 4,756 HND, 247 Bachelor's Degree, and three Master's Degree graduates. Undergraduate and graduate programmes are divided into three schools: Faculty of Engineering; School of Computing and Informatics; and the UTB School of Business.



The Faculty of Engineering comprises four programmes:

- Civil Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Petroleum and Chemical Engineering

The School and Computing and Informatics consists of three programmes:

- Creative Computing
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Network Security

The UTB School of Business offers three programmes:

- Economics
- Accounting
- Management

The Centre for Communication, Teaching and Learning supports the faculty and schools in terms of students language proficiencies and development of soft skills.

In fulfilling its vision to become one of the best ten Engineering and Technology universities in South-East Asia by 2018, UTB is committed to fulfill its ambitions to:

1. Produce well-rounded students who are marketable individuals with social and economic responsibility with strong MIB values;
2. Excel in all its endeavours, including teaching and learning, research and community engagement;
3. Strategic partnerships and push all boundaries in collaboration;
4. Create a vibrant campus that provides for diverse learning culture and intellectually-stimulating environment.

LEADERS OF ITB-UTB SINCE 1986



Yang Mulia Dato Paduka
Haji Mustafa bin Abu Bakar
Director
1986 - 1993



Yang Mulia Awang Haji Mirhassan
bin PDLR Dato Paduka Haji Abu Bakar
Director
1993 - 1995



Yang Mulia Awang Haji Abu Hanifah
bin Haji Mohd Salleh
Director
1995 - 1998



Yang Mulia Dato Paduka
Haji Mohd Yusra bin Haji Abdul Halim
Director
1998 - 2004



Yang Mulia Awang Haji
Suhaila bin Haji Abdul Karim
Acting Director
2004 - 2005



Yang Mulia Dr Awang
Haji Kassim bin Haji Daud
Director
2005 - 2008



Yang Mulia Dr Hajah Naemah
binti Haji Basir
Acting Director
2008



Yang Mulia Dato Paduka
Dr Haji Omar bin Haji Khalid
Vice-Chancellor
2009 - 2012



Yang Mulia Associate Professor
Dr Hajah Zohrah binti Haji Sulaiman
Vice-Chancellor
2012 - Present



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله تعالى وبركاته

Alhamdulillah, praise to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala, we are celebrating another historic milestone in the University's calendar. Today, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education is launching the name and logo of Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB).

We are very grateful to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzadin Waddaulah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for his consent in the renaming of ITB to UTB on 1st March 2016 in conjunction with 21 Jamadilawal 1437.

*The vision "To be amongst the best 10 universities for engineering and technology in Southeast Asia by 2018" is two years away. Everyone in UTB has to reaffirm her/his commitment to achieve the highest quality in teaching and learning, research, and foster strong and sustainable relationship with the community. However, whatever we do, we must always be guided by our *Melayu Islam Beraja value.**

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Everyone in UTB has to reaffirm her/his commitment to achieve the highest quality in teaching and learning, research and foster strong and sustainable relationship with the community. ¶¶

*The renaming of ITB to UTB is timely as we are in the midst of commemorating the university's 30th anniversary. More importantly, the renaming to UTB also gives due recognition of our ability to make a difference in higher education. *Insya'Allah*, we will continue to work hard and make UTB a great university.*

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Honourable Minister of Education, Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and the Council for their support in the renaming of ITB to UTB. I am also indebted to my former predecessors, who have served as leaders of UTB and contributed to the developments that we observe today.

I hope you will enjoy this Special Issue of UTBPulse.

Wabillahi Taufik Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Associate Professor Dr Hajah Zohrah Haji Sulaiman
Vice-Chancellor



**Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya
Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang
Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman**

Minister of Education



Although the goal is to develop internationally-recognised academic programmes, the university has to bear in mind of our national identity and philosophy, *Melayu Islam Beraja*. ❧

I'd like to congratulate UTB for its renaming; this reflects the progressive development of the institution, which will elevate its image and quality, its academicians and staff, education and research programmes, facilities and services.

The Ministry of Education aspires for UTB to continue to contribute towards the development of the country and to remain relevant to today's demands and challenges. As a university, the quality of UTB's academic programmes, research, services and governance needs to fulfil the requirements of both national and international standards.

Academic staff is expected to excel in teaching, research and publications, and service to the community. They need to be continuously updated in their respective fields of expertise in order to remain relevant to the needs of the industry as well as their stakeholders, including their students. The new service scheme for academics (SPTA) will provide an incentive for UTB's academic staff to excel and for the university to continue to recruit and retain high-calibre scholars and academicians across the globe.

UTB's academic programmes are expected to equip its graduates with the essential skills, experiential learning and competency in specific disciplinary areas. I consider regular review and enhancement of the university's curriculum to be fundamental, towards attaining accreditation and recognition from

professional bodies and organisations. This should be complemented with innovative teaching and learning, and research-informed teaching and curriculum design.

Although the goal is to develop internationally-recognised academic programmes, the university has to bear in mind of our national identity and philosophy, *Melayu Islam Beraja*, and that essential values such as entrepreneurship, leadership, creativity and innovation are to be embedded within UTB's curriculum.

With the renaming, I believe UTB's image in the international higher education arena will be further enhanced. I also hope that this will facilitate in realising UTB's vision to be amongst the best 10 universities for Engineering and Technology in Southeast Asia by 2018. As part of this process, I envisage that UTB will strive to develop centres of excellence, in strategic niche areas where it has a comparative and competitive advantage.

Whilst UTB needs to equip their students with the necessary competencies to enter the labour market and to enhance their capacities to meet specific workplace demands, or in other words, produce job-ready graduates, the graduates themselves are expected to be entrepreneurial, and not dependent on government or private sector jobs.

As our country moves from a resource-based economy to a knowledge-driven economy and high-technology, graduates of higher education institutions including those from UTB are expected to lead and drive this change, in order for Negara Brunei Darussalam and the population to enjoy sustained peace and tranquility, stable environment, and a dynamic and sustainable economy.



**Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri
Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu
Bakar bin Haji Apong**

Minister of Home Affairs, formerly the Minister of Education

▀▀ **The renaming of UTB... will provide a stimulus and incentives to the management and academic community of the university to achieve its vision and mission.** ▀▀

I would like to congratulate UTB for its renaming; this marks another historical milestone. Since its inception in 1986, UTB has developed from strength-to-strength as a tertiary education institution in the country offering Higher National Diploma Programmes. Since UTB was upgraded to a full university status in 2008, it has been able to position and develop itself as an institution of higher learning, and played its role in the country and the region.

I believe the renaming of UTB will project a new image to the university. It certainly will provide a stimulus and incentives to the management and academic community of the university to achieve its vision and mission.

I hope the renaming will provide an eco-system for the university to strive for excellence in teaching and learning, research, community services and publication. I hope UTB will be able to attract and compete for high quality academic staff and students on the same footing as other universities in the

country and region. The renaming is also a recognition to UTB's ability in teaching & learning, research and network in the community. My advise to UTB is to continue with exercising self-assessment and re-evaluate strategies in order to remain relevant to the current needs.

In five years' time, I anticipate UTB can play its major role not only in teaching, learning and research but also contribute to the development of Brunei economy especially in non-oil and gas sector. I hope UTB will work very closely in partnership with government agencies and private sector to develop programmes and research agenda that could contribute to diversifying Brunei economy.

I would like to see UTB achieves its vision "to be amongst the best 10 universities for engineering and technology in Southeast Asia by 2018".

Lastly, I wish the best for UTB and may today be the beginning of many milestones. Insyah'Allah.



Yang Mulia Dr. Haji Junaidi bin Haji Abd Rahman

**Permanent Secretary (Higher
Education),
Ministry of Education**

I would like to congratulate University Teknologi Brunei (UTB) on its renaming. This will elevate its status further, naturally creating further confidence to UTB's community in providing assurances to potential students, investors, and international partners. It will also be a positive move for UTB's reputation and UTB can now move forward at full force towards achieving its vision of becoming one of the top engineering universities in South East Asia.

We understand that UTB has also started filing for some patents under its research endeavours. This is, in fact, what we at the Ministry of Education have hoped for in the establishment of the three unique universities under our purview - each with its own strengths and niche areas to operate.

UTB needs to constantly upgrade its infrastructure and stay abreast of the technology which is adopted in the industry. This is crucial for an engineering and technology university where innovation should become the heart of its mission and development. This is also central to creating confidence to

“
There will be more synergy if UTB, UBD and other higher education institutions join efforts - thus creating further sparks for new business ideas.”

employers where graduates produced are believed to have the technical and knowledge skills and experience.

Another crucial component to creating employer's confidence is the reputation of its teaching or research academics. Employers trust a university with good teachers who create an intelligent atmosphere of learning, many of whom are renowned for their work. UTB should therefore make use of the new Academic Personnel Service Scheme in recruiting the best academics to be part of its team.

Entrepreneurialism is such a buzzword in the world of higher education. Universities around the world are taking various initiatives to ensure their graduates come out being independent and risk-takers. The great thing about this is that we do not need to reinvent the wheel. We learn from the best and adopt ideas that fit well with our context and environment.

There will be more synergy if UTB, UBD and other higher education institutions join efforts - thus creating further sparks for new business ideas. By building the curriculum together and coming up with a variety of basic and advance entrepreneurial modules would, I believe, add value to students' learning.

Yang Mulia Dato Paduka Dr. Haji Omar Haji Khalid

Former UTB
Vice-Chancellor

“
The name change is timely,
appropriate and reflects the
growing maturity of the
university.”

When I first became a Vice-Chancellor in 2009, Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) was just upgraded into a university status and it was my task to begin the transformation of that institution into one that is able to offer world-class undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

The first task was to set up a team that will work with me to build UTB's infrastructure into that of a university. During my time, we set up the Chancellery Office, having a Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, an Assistant Vice-Chancellor, a Registrar, Deputy Registrars, and Bursar.

Fortunately, UTB was just allocated a substantial sum of budget for the Phase III infrastructure development. Within a very short time, after extensive consultations with stakeholders within and outside UTB, we came up with a modified plan that truly reflected a university of technology. The transformation required UTB to work closely with the Ministry of Education and other government agencies.

Academically, faculties were further fine-tuned, each headed by a dean and assisted by a deputy dean. Each degree programme was headed by an academic of senior standing and the programme validated overseas.

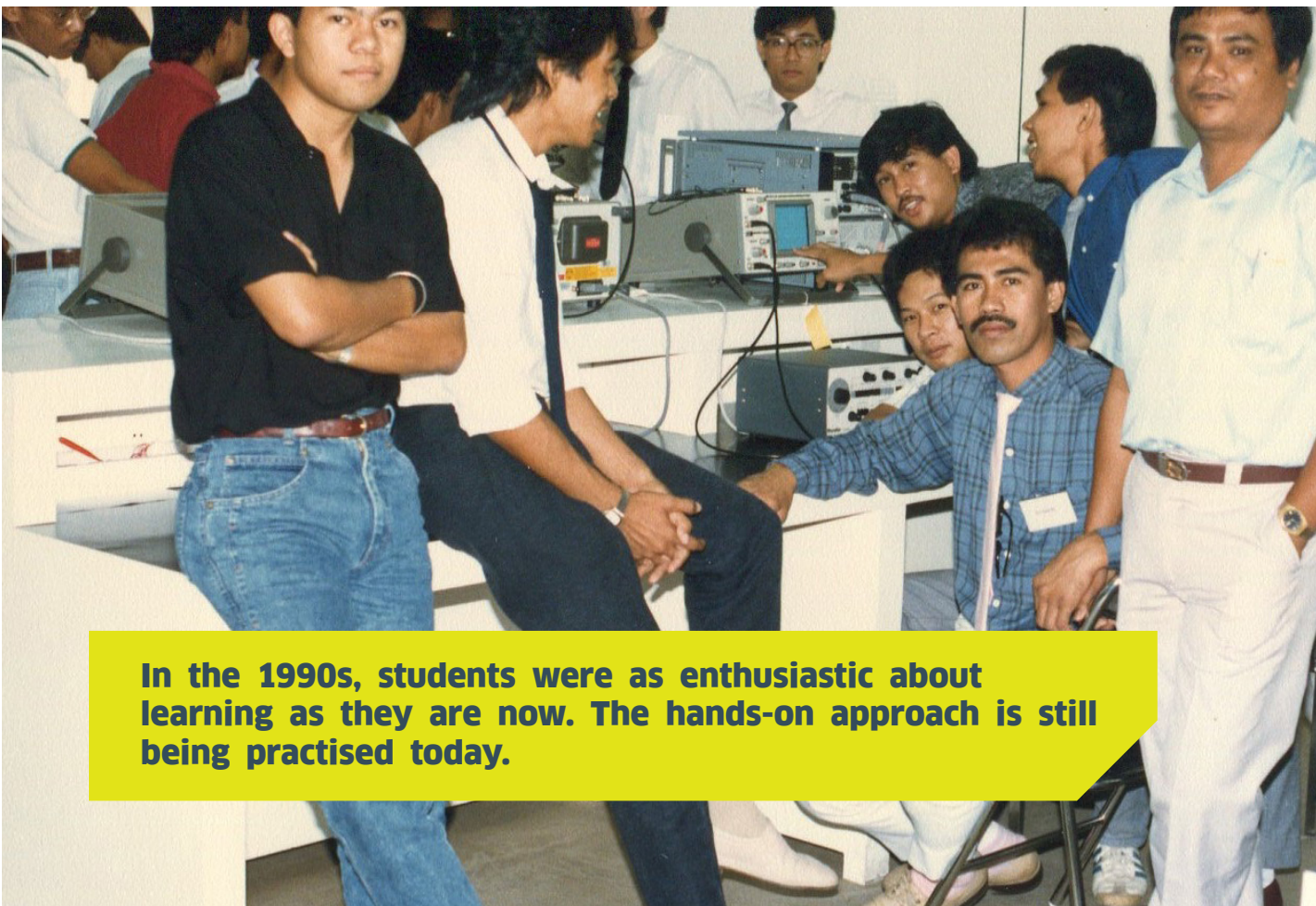


Throughout my three-year tenure as Vice-Chancellor at UTB, the challenge for me was to get staff, academic and non-academic, with the appropriate skill set to operate at various levels of the university. The undergraduate degree programmes meant that the teaching staff needed to have doctoral degree qualification. The logistics of sending local academics to complete their masters and doctoral qualifications, in a period of staff shortages, was an extremely challenging one.

Touching on the name change, it is timely, appropriate and reflects the growing maturity of the university.

I hope the university will continue to grow, achieve its aspirations and transform into a global university of eminent standing, especially in teaching and research.





In the 1990s, students were as enthusiastic about learning as they are now. The hands-on approach is still being practised today.

Adjunct Professor Loo Yau Soon

Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of Darussalam Enterprise (DARE)

UTB has been known to develop hands-on practical talents and has been recognised as a strong university within the nation. The formalisation of the name to “Universiti” will give it the credibility it needs to keep attracting industrial partners, other universities, academic staff, and talented students.

Universities play a key role in the development of strong industries. Silicon Valley would not have been possible without contributions from strong universities like Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley.

If you looked at what schools of technology like MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and even Stanford University have been doing, the collaboration with industries is deep and multi-faceted. It involves joint research and development, students interning at the companies, and industry leaders coming to the university to teach for programmes that have strong links to the industries. More advanced collaborations such as companies participating in incubators are possible as well.

This is a great time for UTB to continue strengthening its collaboration with industries.

Industrial placement allows a student to understand what is happening in the real industrial and corporate world. The more industrial experience students have during their schooling, the more equipped they are for their future workplace. This allows them to make sense of what they are studying in school and allows them to direct their attention into fields and topics that are more critical and applicable.



“**Industrial placement allows a student to understand what is happening in the real industrial and corporate world. The more industrial experience students have during their schooling, the more equipped they are for their future workplace.**”

Pg Dr. Hj Md Esa Al-Islam
Pg Hj Md Yunus

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
Principal Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering



▄▄

Nowadays, it is more student-centred and interactive, and through our training in terms of teaching methodologies, staff productiveness has improved tremendously. ▄▄

A major difference that I have noticed is the method of teaching, especially now that students are more technologically-savvy. Back then, the teaching was more traditional, where you would stand in front of the classroom and convey your teaching to the students. Nowadays, it is more student-centred and interactive, and through our training in terms of teaching methodologies, staff productiveness has improved tremendously.

I am happy the name change has finally materialised. There are a lot of things we need to do, in terms of teaching and learning, community engagement, and so on, that would help realise our Vision.

Pg Dr. Saiful Baharin Pg Duraman

**Assistant Vice-Chancellor
(Industry and Services)
Senior Lecturer, Civil Engineering**

First and foremost, it is important for us to provide good services for the university. Industry-wise, it is a follow-up from what we are good at, which is good relations with industries, so we will continue with that even after we've achieved our university status.

We have collaborations with a lot of government departments as well as engineering corporations, not necessarily for student placements. Now that we have progressed to university status, we are doing other collaborations as well, for example through research, as well as providing consultancy and services to these industries.

I am very proud to be a part of UTB, and my hope is the achievement of its vision, even beyond. This way, we can establish ourselves using our own name and identity. Furthermore, we have potential because we have a particular niche area within Brunei, which is engineering and technology. It is a good opportunity for us to complement ourselves with other universities, which is what we are doing at the moment.



“ **My hope is the achievement of UTB’s vision, even beyond. This way, we can establish ourselves using our own name and identity.** ”



Professor Dr. Nawaf H Saeid

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Professor, Faculty of Engineering

“ In the three years that I’ve been here, I can already see a difference, particularly in terms of research input and output, both of which have increased in number. ”

In my capacity as an Assistant Vice-Chancellor in Research, I believe we need to focus more on research, which is in the stages of building now in UTB. Since 2008, research is growing year by year, both in terms of input and output.

We have a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPI) to target each year, and we continue to monitor and facilitate things that are not going well; investigate the reasons why the KPI targets are not achieved.

In the three years that I’ve been here, I can already see a difference, particularly in terms of research input and output, both of which have increased in number. During the time UTB was offering HND programmes, research progress was very slow. I can see the progression from the Skopus index, from the number of journals published, from two or three in a year back then to 105 now.

UTB is a technological university, but we are still very small. However, the aspiration is still there. With the right knowledge and support, we can make it.





Jennifer Hiew Lim

Registrar and Secretary

UTB has always been a vibrant and exciting place. I moved here from another Ministry of Education department and loved it from the day I stepped in.

With professional accreditation of our programmes on the way, with constant improvement to the learning environment on campus, I am confident that UTB will be the institution of choice for many school leavers.

The students here are very fortunate; they have many valuable opportunities for experience that enrich and add value to their degree programme, such as the ExperiencePLUS, where all students undergo work attachment in industries. Some students even get to study or experience internship programmes abroad, even as far as the United States of America.

Many plans have been put into place and staff have been assigned to ensure that they are implemented. No journey is without its challenges, but it is these challenges that push us and make us stronger. I hope to see UTB propel forward with all staff and students in full understanding of the journey we are making, and all will come aboard.



“ I hope to see UTB propel forward with all staff and students in full understanding of the journey we are making, and all will come aboard. ”

Professor Dr. Eric Dimla

Dean, Faculty of Engineering
Professor of Mechanical Engineering



“We need an education drive or fair to inform locals on what we do, emphasising on the fact that we are a university.”

There are a lot of factors that need to be taken into consideration in order for UTB to be of the same calibre as major international universities. History aside, the motivation to have an institution or university should go hand-in-hand with investment. I think Brunei has a long way to go for its institutes to catch up with international institutions; there needs to be significant investment, with an emphasis of significance in facilities and personnel.

It is very difficult if its employers regard working in a university similar as working in a government office. In my opinion, it doesn't work like that. You have to have a different mindset; a passion of being an educator, of doing research. Research is not always rewarding financially, neither is teaching; but it is the satisfaction that you're in a career where you're making a positive contribution and educating young people.

The main challenge at the moment is the main source of funding, the government. With the current economic challenges, funding is at a great strain, so we have to find ways to minimise impact of funding cuts, for good quality education.

Currently we are focused on offering our core degree programmes, growing the numbers. This means we have to be out there, telling Bruneians what we do. I was surprised to find out through industrial visitations that many don't really know much about what we do here in UTB. We need an education drive or fair to inform locals on what we do, emphasising on the fact that we are a university.

The misconception nowadays is still, “Oh, UTB, it offers HNDs, doesn't it?”, which is not the case. We are the premier technology and engineering university in Brunei. We need to use technology, the aspirations of this generation, and tap into that significantly.

Hj Ady Syarmin Hj Md Taib

Director, International and Public Relations Office
Senior Lecturer, Civil Engineering

The longer I work in UTB, the more I grew to love academia. Back when I started in 2002, lecturing was one-way; you disseminate information to your students. But it is more than just that.

As an academic, you need to play a role in nurturing your students, and at the same time contribute to the enrichment of knowledge through research, as well as to society. On top of the knowledge and competencies required by respective professional bodies, we'd also like students to realise their full potential.

Nowadays, there is a greater urgency to do and achieve things, to go with the times. Which is apt, because as a university, you work at a different level. There is no doubt that you will be compared to other local universities, as well as regionally and internationally. You have to stand out in the areas that you are good at.

Personally, my office can play a role in the challenges UTB faces in the future. But as for the leadership, to rally the people to achieve the vision and aspiration is the greatest challenge. To keep people motivated, to push them to do their best, to deliver quality teaching, research as well as community engagement; these are all important.

If we can identify the strengths of these young people and nurture them, we can go beyond the ordinary.



“**On top of the knowledge and competencies required by respective professional bodies, we'd also like students to realise their full potential.**”

Jennifer Voon

Director, Industry Liaison Office
Senior Lecturer, School of Computing
and Informatics



By growing into a university, it allows us all to grow along with it; it pulls and pushes us along.

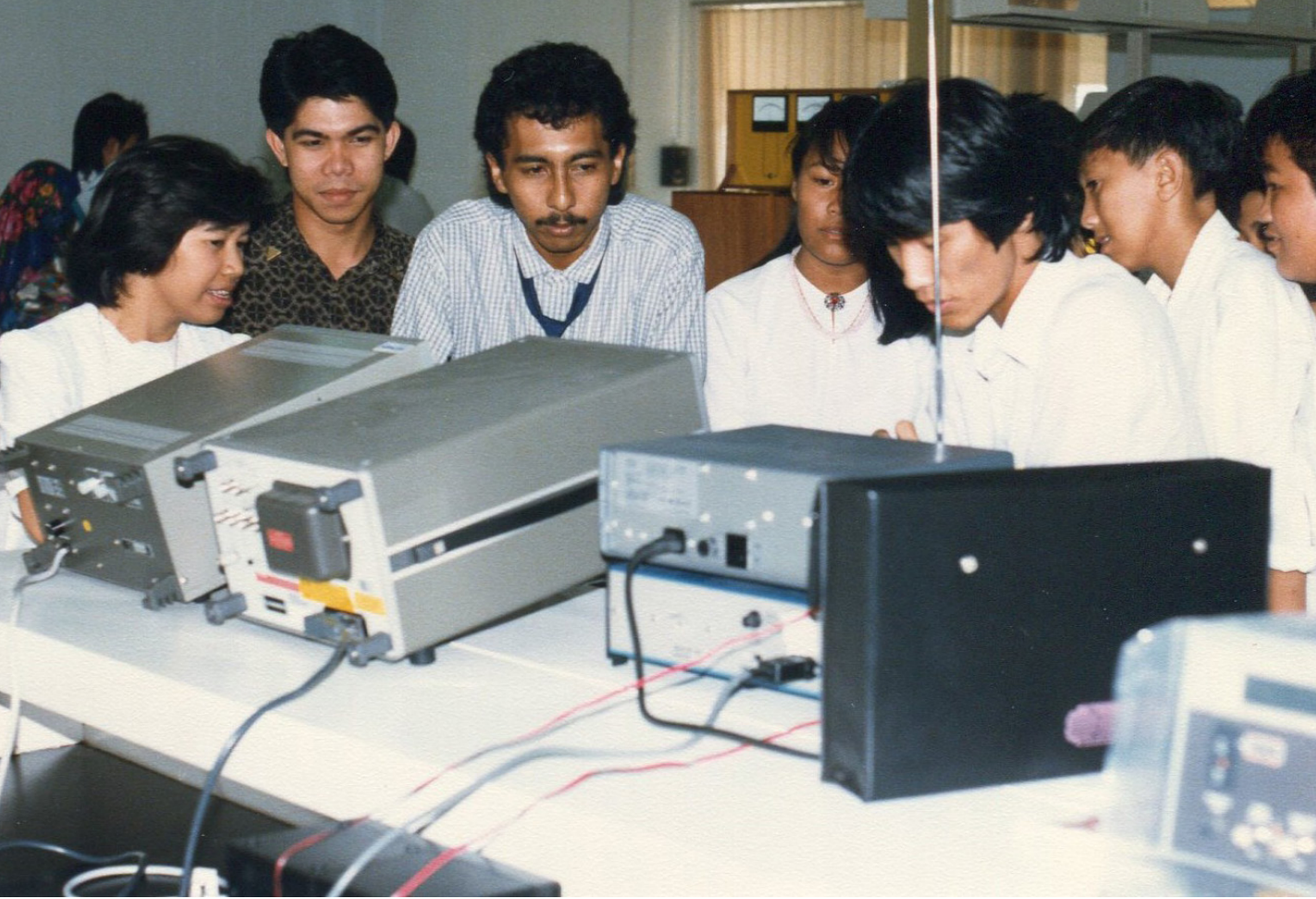
We are proceeding very nicely into the future than I initially thought; by being a full-fledged university offering all these courses.

The most important aspect for me, is a university that is very concerned about the environment. Towards that, we have the best disciplines, in terms of technology, engineering and the sciences.

I want to see us succeed by expanding some of the projects that we're already doing, and to focus more on them. At the same time, I want the quality of teaching to improve, for us to be accredited by professional bodies, giving us a competitive edge. I'd also like students out there to not be scared to innovate.

We want to compete with the best, not just nationally.

“ I'd like students out there to not be scared to innovate. ”





Hands-on teaching and learning has always been a highlight in UTB.

Hj Osman Hj Mohd Tahir

Managing Director, Insurans Islam TAIB
HND in Business and Finance, 1988

I am proud of how far UTB has come. During my time at UTB, we have always been encouraged to join the private sector. I personally am a major advocate of working in the private sector.

I remember vividly my attachment at Yaohan Department Store, particularly the Japanese managers' work ethics and how they look after their employees. Similar to UTB, there were a variety of nationalities working at the store back then, such as Japanese, Singaporean, Filipino, Malaysian, and so on. Diversity adds value to your life.

UTB gave me life. I did not perform too well during my A Levels, but entering UTB has provided me with the opportunity to venture into something that has put me on the path leading to where I am now.

So it is not impossible for people like me, with just an HND, to have the world.



“
UTB gave me life.”

Azmi Hj Hafneh

**Acting Director, Immigration and National Registration
HND in Computer Studies, Class of 1996**



UTB has played a major role in being a stepping stone for me to learn vocational and technical skills. I particularly learnt a lot from the classroom, particularly from my fellow students, as there was mixture of A-Levels and Technical School graduates.

The mixture of educational backgrounds, working on group projects together; this is the stage where you learn about how people tackle problems, through the different ways of thinking.

My philosophy in life is to work hard and be sincere. If you work hard without sincerity, people can feel it, that you are not passionate, and that affects how they react to you and how they perform in their jobs.

“ My philosophy in life is to work hard and be sincere. ”

Dk Dr Noor Muneerah Pg Hj Jeludin

**Lecturer of Civil Engineering,
Universiti Teknologi Brunei
ITB-QUB BEng in Civil Engineering**

UTB was my institution of choice because it was the most relevant to my field of engineering, especially in terms of opportunities for research, which made me progress in terms of publishing papers.

The students now are very fortunate and privileged in terms of resources compared to back in my time. Nowadays, students can go on the Internet or to the library, and everything is there.

Personally, the transition from college to university was a huge one for me. In college, we tend to be in our clusters, stay within our circle of friends. In university, you need to interact, find out how to obtain certain information because it isn't spoon fed to you anymore. In a way, my time at UTB has helped build my confidence a little.



“**Personally, the transition from college to university was a huge one for me.**”

Mohd Shafi'ei Ferry Alfian

President, UTB Student Council
BEng (Hons) in Mechanical
Engineering



This is my second year, and I have learnt a lot from my alumni as well as my lecturers, both academically and co-curricular activities. As the president of the Student Council, I strive to continue being the voice of the students.

I am very grateful to be a student at UTB, mainly due to the facilities available here. Once I graduate, I hope my involvement with the Student Council can help me become a better leader, at organisations such as Brunei Shell Petroleum or Brunei LNG.

“ As the president of the Student Council, I strive to continue being the voice of the students. ”

Ahmad Faiz Hj Muhd Fuad

Vice President, UTB Student Council
BSc (Hons) in Internet Computing

Coming from a polytechnic school, I chose UTB to pursue my studies because it is more hands on and practical compared to other institutions of higher learning. Due to this, it has a much higher job acceptance rate compared to other institutions and I believe we can maintain that, as we have been doing in the past 30 years.

As a member of the Student Council and a student myself, I would like to bring the community within and outside the university together; there needs to be more of a feeling of self-belonging particularly amongst the students here.

I will continue to do my best and make UTB proud.



“
As a member of the Student Council, I’d like to bring the community within and outside the university together. ”

YAM PA Muhammad Abd Qayyum

Head Exco Economy and Entrepreneurship, UTB Student Council BBus (Hons) in Technology Management

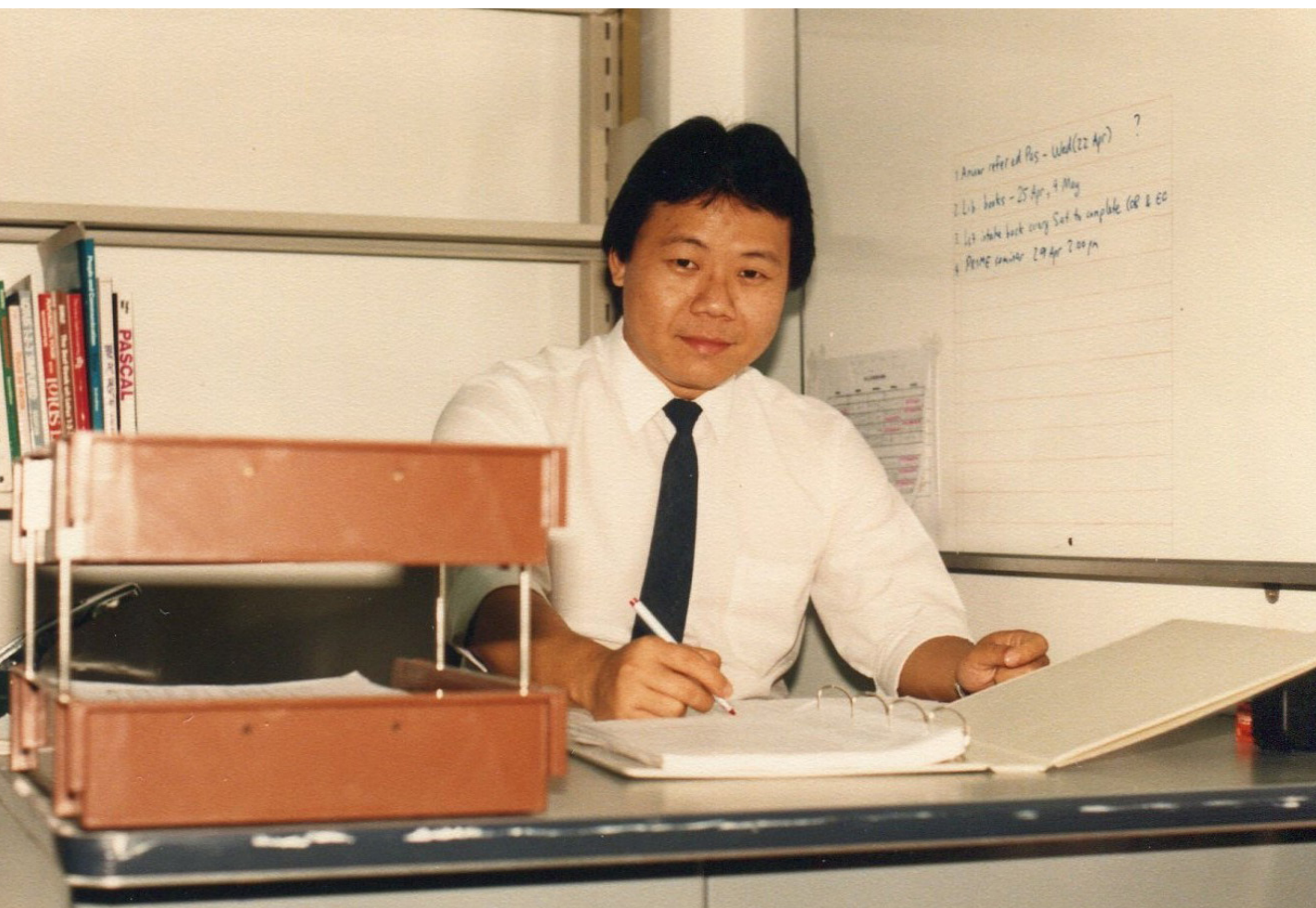


“ **Before I started my course, I knew I was going to love it. It is the mixture of IT and business that appealed to me. ”**

Before I entered UTB, I heard many things about this university, that students don't just come here to study, but also involve themselves with activities. In other words, UTB does not just focus on the academic side but also in extra-curricular activities. And before I started my course, I knew I was going to love it. It is the mixture of IT and business that appealed to me.

As Head Exco of Economy and Entrepreneurship, my team and I are planning to do a variety of events, to focus more on entrepreneurship, to help sustain the economy in Brunei. Students can then not just focus on getting a job, but they also generate their entrepreneurship skills, maybe even start a small business then go bigger, be more than they expect.

We plan to organise talks and camps for youth entrepreneurship, and bring in successful and non-successful speakers to share their experiences. We also plan to engage students and lecturers by organising events together so they can bond and understand each other better.





Clockwise from top left: UTB staff and students take part in Maulud Nabi; officials standing in front of the main building during the construction phase; visitors looking at the campus' interior; a lecturer sits behind his desk.

Siti Nur Syazwani Hj Sabtu

Head Exco of Publicity and ICT,
Student Council
BEng (Hons) in Mechatronics
Engineering

UTB has always been my first choice. My sister was a student here, and she said the community involvement here is much stronger than when she was at another local university, so that influenced my decision to join UTB.

My course also gives me the ability to go into both mechanical and electrical engineering, which will give me more options once I graduate.

Myself and my colleagues have played a major part in the name change, particularly in terms of changing posters, altering logos as well as advertisements. It has been a great experience, particularly since we are actively involved in the change, in making it happen.

Ten years from now, I will look back and say, "Yes, I am proud to be a part of that change."



“ I have made a great decision in choosing UTB to pursue my degree in engineering. ”

Nurulhidayati Hj Mohd Sani

PhD in Motion Analysis and Synthesis



I hope UTB students do not take their education here for granted. Instead, it should inspire them to be who they want to be. Unfortunately, some students are pushed to do what they're doing now, without any passion at all.

However, that was how I started. I first came to UTB in 2008 to study, with no actual direction. But it was my lecturers who inspired me and made me who I am today. You can see how much the lecturers love what they're doing from how they're teaching.

I aspire to become a lecturer myself one day, and I hope to inspire my own students, for them to love the course they are doing.

“ I aspire to become a lecturer myself one day, and I hope to inspire my own students. ”

Hamadiatul Hayati Abd Hamid

Masters by Research in Computer Information System

I was also an HND student here, did the Computer and Information Studies course and graduated in 1999. Our intake was the first that studied in the new campus here; before that, it was Sultan Saiful Rizal Technical College.

As a returning student, I have noticed a significant change here in UTB, particularly in terms of infrastructure and number of students. However, now that I am a research student, I noticed that resources are still lacking. One change that I have found useful is the establishment of the Graduate Studies and Research Office, a place where graduates can come to ask questions, which is a useful and great improvement.



”

As a returning student, I have noticed a significant change here in UTB, particularly in terms of infrastructure and number of students. ”

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Muhamad Shaban, from Pakistan

Masters by Research in Electrical and Electronic Engineering

Studying in Brunei has been a very enjoyable experience for me, particularly in terms of research. Brunei is a very peaceful country and the food here is very nice.

I was offered scholarships from Sri Lanka, South Korea and Brunei, and I chose Brunei because the culture here fits me the best, especially since I am a Muslim and I prefer being in a Muslim country.

As a research student, the name change will be beneficial for me, particularly once I publish my research papers. I have published five so far. Now that we are called a university, I believe our research and journals will become more credible to those outside the country. Furthermore, we will have more opportunities in terms of ranking and facilities.



“ I was offered scholarships from Sri Lanka, South Korea and Brunei, and I chose Brunei because the culture here fits me the best. ”

Mohd Morwan Siraj, from Ghana

Bachelors in Electrical and Electronic Engineering

I chose Brunei as a whole because it is an Islamic country, and I wish to develop myself more as a Muslim. My aspiration is to build the communication service in my country, so I want to get the basics here, and improve upon it with my masters and PHD.

I've already started building radio station from scratch, and it is hooked to my car. So whenever I drive, people can actually pick up from my signal and I can share whatever I am listening to. I want to develop on that on a larger scale; telecommunication in Ghana is really bad, so I want to improve that, and perhaps start my own radio station, share my thoughts with the people in my country, and possibly with the world.

I did not see the name change from ITB to UTB to be necessary, but I think it is actually a good move. I believe the name change will raise the standard of the institution.



▀▀ **I believe the name change from ITB to UTB will raise the standard of the institution.** ▀▀

Vedad Sejfic, from Bosnia and Herzegovina

BSc in Marketing and Information Systems



Now that I am in my second year, I realised that there are so many opportunities here in Brunei, especially because of the low diversification of the economy. So I engaged myself with some of the people here, and am currently involved in a number of projects, particularly those on web design and web development.

The lecturers here are very helpful, especially in providing materials. I find UTB lecturers have closer rapport with their students.

“ I find UTB lecturers have closer rapport with their students. ”

Tafsiran Logo UTB

Berilmu, Beriman dan Berinovasi merupakan cogan kata yang telah dipilih untuk menghiasi logo UTB dan juga sebagai penyuntik semangat dalam usaha membentuk para pelajar yang mempunyai ketiga-tiga ciri tersebut.

Graduan yang mempunyai ciri-ciri ini diyakini mampu menjadi aset yang berharga dalam mendokong hasrat Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam untuk menjadikan Negara Brunei Darussalam sebagai Negara Zikir dan juga dalam usaha mencapai Wawasan Negara 2035.

Universiti Teknologi Brunei dengan huruf jawi menggambarkan kepentingan tulisan jawi sebagai tulisan kitab suci Al-Quran dan juga unsur bahasa melayu. Kedudukannya ditempat paling atas dalam rekabentuk logo UTB melambangkan martabatnya yang tinggi selaras dengan falsafah negara iaitu Melayu Islam Beraja.

Panji-panji melambangkan status UTB sebagai sebuah institusi pengajian tinggi awam di Negara Brunei Darussalam. Kedudukannya ditengah-tengah logo menunjukkan bahawa paksi kewujudan UTB adalah fungsinya untuk mendokong kepimpinan Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam dan juga aspirasi negara.



Rekabentuk gear melambangkan identiti UTB sebagai sebuah universiti kejuruteraan dan teknologi yang dinamik. Alat kejuruteraan ini juga berfungsi untuk menunjukkan bahawa UTB adalah sebuah institusi yang bersedia berganding bahu dan bekerjasama secara strategik dengan pihak-pihak berkepentingan yang lain demi kepentingan negara.

Akronim bagi Universiti Teknologi Brunei iaitu huruf U,T dan B diolah secara geometrik menjadi berbentuk lingkaran yang menggambarkan usaha UTB untuk menjadikan graduan UTB sebagai insan-insan wasatiyyah yang berilmu, berkemahiran, berakhlak, bertanggungjawab dan serba boleh.

Tahun penubuhan UTB pada 1 Januari 1986 sebagai Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB) diterapkan di dalam logo UTB bagi mengenang sejarah penubuhannya

- ⊗ Warna biru tua dipilih untuk mencerminkan ciri-ciri kestabilan dan profesionalisma.
- ⊗ Warna ungu menunjukkan daya kreativiti dan inovasi.
- ⊗ Warna hijau kekuningan melambangkan kebeliaan, dinamik dan serba boleh.



UTB in the next few years will enhance its role in nation building by producing graduates of tomorrow who, amongst others, are independent, highly skilled, and strongly embedded in the Melayu Islam Beraja philosophy.

These are the youth who will support Wawasan 2035 and are therefore relevant to the current needs of the nation.

We aim to create values for our students by providing the highest quality in teaching, learning and research.


UTB has to continuously re-evaluate its strategies to remain relevant as we all recognise that education is dynamic and will face challenges of the ever-changing, competitive needs of the 21st century.

Insya'Allah, we will make UTB a great university!

Wabillahi Taufik Walhidayah
Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi
Wabarakatuh

Associate Professor Dr Hajah Zohrah Haji Sulaiman
Vice-Chancellor



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