

New collaboration between GreenRE Sdn. Bhd. and Institute Sultan Iskandar through REHDA



KUALA LUMPUR, 28 November 2013 - Institute Sultan Iskandar (ISI) of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) and REHDA through GreenRE Sdn. Bhd. are collaborating to promote and mainstream green buildings in Malaysia. The new initiatives known as GreenRE and owned by GreenRE Sdn Bhd., envisage driving Malaysia's Real Estate and construction industry towards more environment-friendly buildings.

GreenRE aims to promote sustainability in the built environment through new construction and retrofitting of existing buildings according to recognised international and best practices in environmental design and performance. The affordability by stakeholders to participate in green building certification remains an issue to be addressed for mainstreaming green buildings in the industry i.e., making it a norm rather than exception.

GreenRE prioritises the importance of local needs and issues making it relevant to Malaysia. GreenRE enhances environmental awareness among developers, designers and builders starting from conceptualisation, design, construction and operation.

This collaboration reflects industry-university relationship to further develop skill and expertise towards creating best green

practices in built environment for Malaysia. The collaboration will pave for the development of competent green building professionals that will promote green building and environmental sustainability practices and to assist the implementation of GreenRE initiatives

The Chairman of Institute Sultan Iskandar, YBhg. Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali believes that the involvement of ISI, and lecturers of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in GreenRE will make a significant contribution to the building industry. The practical experience of lecturers on green assessments is likely to enhance students' learning in the classroom. The ISI-REHDA collaboration will also provide opportunities for staff and students with experiential learning from real life projects.

REHDA Secretary-General, YBhg. Datuk Haji Mustaza bin Haji Mohamad echoed that REHDA-UTM-ISI Partnership enables UTM lecturers to gain hands-on experience in GreenRE building assessment. The collaboration will involve activities to establish a competent core of GreenRE experts. Selected lecturers and professionals from UTM will undergo training to become qualified GreenRE assessors.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Mr. James Chua (GreenRE) and Prof. Dr. Mohd Hamdan bin Hj. Ahmad (UTM-ISI) signifies the start of GreenRE certification training and assessment partnership.

Special Audience with Duli Yang Maha Mulia Sultan Ibrahim Ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar

JOHOR BAHRU, 5 November 2013 - A Special Audience was held with Duli Yang Maha Mulia Sultan Ibrahim Ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar, Sultan dan Yang Dipertuan Bagi Negeri dan Jajahan Takluk Johor Darul Ta'zim.

The audience seek to introduce ISI new Deputy Chairman, Prof. Ir. Dr. Wahid Bin Omar . DYMM Sultan was also briefed on the latest development of the proposed Istana Hinggap at Sungai Rambah, Pontian.

Photo credits to Office of the Vice Chancellor of UTM



ISI Leading change through its National Conference on Change Dynamics in the Public Sector

PUTRAJAYA, 28 November 2013 - In line with the Prime Minister's call, Institute Sultan Iskandar (ISI) of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in collaboration with Global Event Asia conducted the National Conference on Change Dynamics in the Public Sector.

In a world of rapid changes, reforming economies, societies and increasing environmental strains, there is the need for a higher change capacity of public sector to meet more complex demands. Whilst change is endemic within today's Public Sector empirical studies indicate that a significantly high proportion of changes fail to achieve its goals. In Malaysia, our survival depends on the Public Sector in developing the sharpest instincts for sensing changes in current operating environment and taking the necessary measures in time to deal with those changes.

Leading change in the public sector is not a tidy thing to do. In addition to top leadership involvement, it requires clear lines of accountability if there is to be any hope of overcoming an agency's natural resistance to change, marshaling the resources needed to improve management, building and sustaining the organization-wide commitment to new ways of providing public service.

The theme "Increasing Performance and Citizen Demand for Good Governance" brought together practitioners, industry experts and academics.

This conference was officiated by Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Halim bin Ali, Chairman of Institute Sultan Iskandar, UTM and the keynote address delivered by Professor Haig Patapan, Director of Centre for Governance and Public Policy, Griffith University Australia.

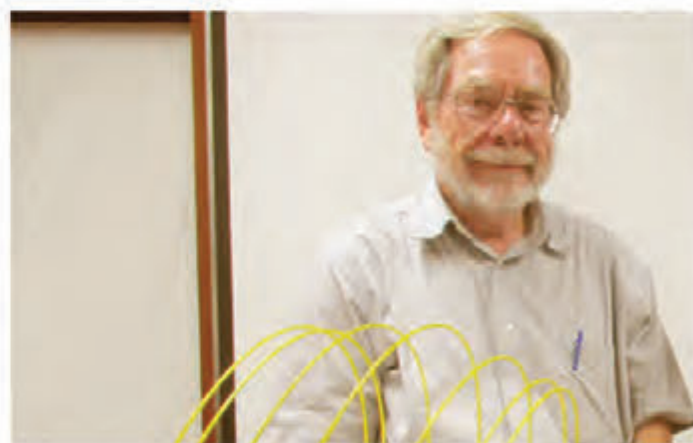


Inventor of new heliodons in Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

JOHOR BAHRU, 1 October 2013 - Institute Sultan Iskandar (ISI) has held a Public Lecture as part of its Corporate Service Responsibility (CSR) for UTM. The lecture by Prof. Emeritus Norbert Lechner on Sustainable Design Strategies in Tropical Climates focused on minimizing the problem of global warming by helping architects design low energy buildings in Malaysia.

Prof. Emeritus Norbert Lechner is an expert in energy responsive architectural design with emphasis on solar responsive design including day-lighting. He is the inventor of new types of heliodons. Heliodons are excellent teaching and designing tools that simulate solar movements for architectural projects.

Institute Sultan Iskandar (ISI) achieved full attendance on this public lecture from various participants from within UTM and outside establishments.



Phase 1 of the Collaborative Research ISI-JKR progresses

JOHOR BAHRU, 30 December 2013 - ISI-JKR Collaborative Research Project on the 'Centre of Excellence Towards JKR as a World Class Service Provider' has now completed its first phase as at 31 December 2013.

This one year research intends to produce a Conceptual Model and an Implementation Plan for a COE to propel the department (JKR) to attain the stature of a world class service provider.

The research team prior to completing initial stage output held a brainstorming workshop in Melaka on 16 to 18 December 2013 which were attended by the ISI - UTM and JKR researchers team.



ISI at Hari Inovasi Jabatan Perdana Menteri 2013

PUTRAJAYA, 2 October 2013 - ISI fellow and a well-established inventor, Mr Bugs Tan Yeow Kiang was invited to be one of the speakers for this one day event. He also exhibited some of his works and explained his methods of achievements to visitors at the Putrajaya Marriot hotel on 1 October 2013.

The event was officiated by Y.Bhg Tan Sri Dr. Ali Bin Hamsa, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Malaysia.

This Prime Ministers Office Innovation Day 2013 is in line with the government's measures to stimulate the environment and develop the ecosystem that encourages innovation among civil servants.



About ISI

Institute Sultan Iskandar of Urban Habitat and Highrise (ISI) is an independent non-profit making research and development, serving the Government, private sector and the university. Gazetted as an approved institution, ISI operates within the UTM campuses in Johor Bahru and Kuala Lumpur.

The Bumiputera property ownership within Iskandar Malaysia Workshops

JOHOR BAHRU, 26 December 2013 - The study on 'The Bumiputera Property Ownership within Iskandar Malaysia' which commenced on 1 July 2013 was jointly undertaken by Institute Sultan Iskandar and Applied Economic Research Group K-economy Research Alliance, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia. The study has reached the final stage of information and data gathering.

Various aspects are being addressed in the study, the finding could be used in charting strategic action for the Economic Transformation Program (ETP) for the Bumiputera in Johor, particularly with Iskandar Malaysia.

Two workshops was conducted on 28-29 November and 24 December 2013. The first workshop was officiate by YB Datuk Haji Abdul Latif Bin Haji Bandi, Chairman of the Housing and Local Government Committee Johor. A panel session represented by State Economic Planning Unit (UPEN), Department of Evaluation and Property Service, Bankers, NGOs and Developers had discussed issues on Bumiputera property ownership and affordable housing.

Much information were obtained through the workshop and participants were enlightened on issues related to the subject and the study will progress with a higher level of confident in concluding the study that would be completed by early January 2014. The study has been financed by Johor Land Berhad.



"Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people."

Eleanor Roosevelt

TURNING IDEAS INTO INNOVATIONS



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Appreciating Mission, Common Objectives and Team Working

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Zamani Bin Ahmad
ISI Deputy Director II

Mission of a company sets the general preferred direction towards achieving performance goals. Survival of the organisation depends on organisational objectives that have been set. The objective shall be pursued by the management who are entrusted with the responsibility of achieving the KPIs, the key performance indicators representing the objectives. Projects are means of achieving the organisational objectives. Hence, management will secure projects for the very existence of the organisation.

Delivering projects requires team working. Projects are successfully delivered if all tasks are delivered within the allocated resources; time, material, etc. Technical team delivers tasks closely tied to the project milestones while support team including financial manager, legal advisor, corporate communication, etc. provides general management administration support. Everybody works with a shared objective of delivering each task successfully. Failing to work as a team would lead to exhaustion of company's resources.

Exhaustion of resources comes in many ways the most common of which is unbalanced utilisation of, say, manpower. This may be due to bad planning but the most common source is lack of performance by one member being compensated by another member who need to put in extra energy over and above his limit and capability. It may have small short term impact but in the long run it affects culture and stability of the company.

The importance of understanding the direct dependency between company's missions, shared objectives and team working is the primary responsibility of each and every staff. The duty of appreciating KPI-based, objective oriented project execution is on every staff too. Since that performance of staff in project-based company is measured on projects successfully delivered it is fundamental that staff turn themselves into contributing project members. To stay relevant is to stay attached to and deliver daily tasks identified critical to ongoing projects.

Team working requires effective communication through all levels. One common channel must be maintained for all types of communication. That way communication is not lost and its importance is preserved. This ensures transparency, essential in delivering projects. Success is shared, while failure is never an option.

Bundle of joy



Congratulations to our ISI Johor Bahru staff Zurina Khuzai and husband, Zaid Bin Sawal@Luhit on the arrival of their lovely baby girl on 11 December 2013. Zurina is the secretary to the Executive Director of ISI. Best wishes to the proud parents.

Staff recent nuptial



ISI would like to congratulate our Consultancy Manager, Ahmad Amzar Ahmad and his spouse Siti Hamimi Noor Binti Mohd Abd Khar on their recent marriage. The Akad was held in Kampung Chabang Tiga, Kuala Terengganu on 16 November and groom's reception was held on 1 December 2013 in Kampung Wakaf Tembesu, Kuala Terengganu. The couple now resides in Johor Bahru. We wish all the best to the newly wed couple.

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