

## The IUBMB-FAOBMB Young Scientist Program

The IUBMB-FAOBMB Young Scientist Program was held in conjunction with the 27<sup>th</sup> FAOBMB and the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual MSBMB Conference in Taylor's University Lakeside Campus from 15-18 August 2019. The YSP event was attended by 36 young early career scientists from five different regions including Asia, Oceania, America, Africa and Europe. The event also included 18 YSP-observers. The YSP event began with an evening reception followed by 2 invited lectures presented by Prof Dr Paul Gleeson from the University of Melbourne on the role of Golgi apparatus as a cell sensor and Prof Carmay Lim from the Institute of Biomedical Science, Academia Sinica, Taiwan on the importance of metal ions in brain signaling.

The YSP program featured presentations ranging from proteomics, molecular biology, plant biochemistry to cancer biology, structural biology and immunology.

YSP participants were able to learn about each other's projects in detail through interactive sessions of questions and answers, hopefully leading to enduring collaborations. The program also included a half-day tour to the Malaysia Genome Institute (MGI), a national core research facility. The YSP delegates got the chance to see the state-of-the-art DNA sequencer and cutting edge protein characterization including X-ray crystallography, NMR and high-end mass spectrometry. The tour ended with an experience at the stingless bee (closely related to the common honey bee but have highly reduced stingers) farm where were able to try the distinctive fresh sour honey unique to this species. The YSP ended with a social program on the last day with a Kuala Lumpur City Tour showcasing Malaysia's diverse and inclusive culture. The tour visited the famous Petronas Twin Towers, Batu Caves, Chinatown and many more. Delegates were also able to experience a Malaysian cultural dance over lunch during the tour.

### Here are some short testimonials from the YSP delegates:

"First of all, I am really thankful and appreciate the chance given for me to participate in the YSP 2019 in Taylor's University. In this 4-days event, I have enjoyed the diverse area of researches presented by all the YSP awardees from all over the world. The friendships we built is the best part of this YSP program. We present and discuss sciences in the meeting, but we also enjoyed each other's companion and laughter. I believe the friendships and memories in this YSP 2019 will last long and useful for our career and future collaborations.

In addition, YSP gave me a great platform to obtain information regarding fellowship, job opportunities, and working cultures at other countries. The information is very helpful to prepare myself for establishing my career in the near future. Also, I always enjoy and like to communicate with people from different field of research and cultures, they never failed to bring me a different perspective.

I really amazed by the high standard of organizing and communication skills that you and your team have demonstrated. Thank you for the wonderful memories." *Adrian Chek, Japan*

"First, I want to thank you all for organizing such a wonderful YSP programme and a conference in Malaysia. I gained a lot of knowledge by listening to other YSPs who presented their work in numerous fields although some are not directly related to what I do. In addition to the knowledge gained, you provided such an awesome atmosphere for building friendships and close associations among us. The facilities provided were excellent and meals were delicious. I enjoyed every moment that I spent during the program and I very much value the large number of new friends that I befriended. Thank you again for giving us this opportunity." *Ruwani Hewawasam, Sri Lanka*

"I would sincerely like to thank you once again for giving me opportunity to be a part of such an incredible scientific gathering!!! I must say that I had never been to better organized conference where you paid so much attention to every single detail and all that with a big and sincere smile! I felt amazing during the whole time of the conference. Scientific part was so well put and discussed. The talks were really interesting and helpful, even when the topic was not my specific area of interest. The accommodation and the place chosen for the conference were just amazing! And I really appreciate the effort of the organizers to show us the city and domestic cuisine, it really helped us to get to know Malaysian life style and tradition. Thank you so much for everything it was unbelievable experience that I would guard for life." *Sanja Kovačević, Serbia*

"I got lots of experiences, nice friends, especially a huge inspiration for my PhD as well as my life. I'm really grateful for giving me a big opportunity to join the YSP and for organizing this wonderful and heart-warming program." *Pinnapat Pinsorn, Thailand*



**YOUNG SCIENTIST PROGRAM 2019**  
TAYLOR'S UNIVERSITY LAKESIDE CAMPUS



