

Borneo Bulletin

Since 1953

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, SABAH AND SARAWAK

VOL.27 | NO.222

B\$1.50

Focus on best practices in professional development

A four-day seminar was conducted in collaboration with University of Bradford, United Kingdom (UK) as a joint effort with Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) under the British Council Grant's research project entitled 'Learning from COVID-19 Pandemic: Best practice exchanges on student placement in higher education and exploring partnership on student and Staff mobility'.

The research was led by Head of At-Tamayyuz Unit Dr Hajah Halimaturradiah binti Dato Seri Setia Haji Metussin with co-researchers Director of Centre for Leadership and Lifelong Learning Hajah Nurul Nabilah binti Haji Ali and Deputy Dean of Faculty of Islamic Economics and Finance Dr Amnisuhailah binti Abarahan.

The seminar was one of the output activities conducted as part of the memorandum of agreement between UNISSA and the University of Bradford. The aim of the research project is to identify the best practices in this specific area in continuing professional development across subjects/disciplines

and their pedagogy.

It also seeks to increase students' marketability for employment through expanding experiential learning, which is not only limited to conventional learning in classroom but also in industrial settings. It is also to examine transnational education opportunities while learning the different teaching and research environments, as well as to enhance inter-cultural experience in the UK



Attendees of the seminar in a group photo with Head of Social Sciences from University of Bradford Professor Peter Mitchell.
PHOTO: UNIVERSITI ISLAM SULTAN SHARIF ALI

and Brunei. Several discussions and ideas were exchanged between executive officers and lecturers throughout the seminar to better understand University of Bradford's best practices.

It also focussed on having a student-centred approach in academic excellence and staff professional developments, as well as providing opportunities not only to students but also staff members, through

experiential learning in mobility and placement programmes.

On the third day of the seminar, a topic was delivered by Employer and Placement Services Manager from University of Bradford Alison Hedley on student placements with guests from Universiti Brunei Darussalam and Universiti Teknologi Brunei participating.

On the last day, invitations were extended to ministries and related

organisations to attend a session conducted by the Head of Social Sciences from University of Bradford, Professor Peter Mitchell on 'Do autistic people have readable Minds? If not, what are the consequences?', where it was highlighted that it is still possible for those with special needs to be excellent in the ways they can be, if given the right guidance and treatment through education.