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English News

23 JUN USM-KKU TO ADVANCE TOGETHER THROUGH COLLABORATION



USM, PENANG, 23 June 2017 - The School of Biological Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) recently affirmed collaboration with the Faculty of Sciences, Khon Kaen University (KKU) Thailand in areas of joint research and student exchange programmes.

According to the Deputy Dean, School of Biological Sciences, Associate Professor Dr. Yahya Mat Arip, the collaboration would begin with the KKU Biology Department as both parties have similar and overlapping interests. Therefore, a platform can be established for future joint research and publications.



The Director of USM Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies (CEMACS), Professor Dr. Aileen Tan Shau Hwai said: "Normally, there would be one or two students sent for exchange programmes, but in this collaboration, we are trying to increase the number of students between both countries. We will begin with the students from the School and later to be followed by those from CEMACS."

"KKU is actually a highly-ranked public research university in Thailand, but yet to be explored by most of the universities in Malaysia," she added, with the hope that USM and KKU can identify and explore areas of potential collaboration in the future, beginning with the field of science.

Meanwhile, the Dean, Faculty of Sciences KKU, Assistant Professor Dr. Somkiat Srijaranai said, USM was selected by KKU for the collaboration initiative due to USM's reputation and also its recent listing in the top 300 QS World University Rankings.



Although the collaboration presently involves the School of Biological Sciences and CEMACS with KKU, a discussion has also been arranged between other science schools in USM with the departments under KKU's Faculty of Sciences.

Those who were present from USM included the Deputy Deans from the School of Chemical Sciences, School of Physics and School of Computer Sciences. Those representing KKU were Associate Professor Piyada from the Department of Biological Science and Assistant Professor Wararat and Dr. Uthumporn from the Department of Applied Science.

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