



OVERVIEW OF WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES IN MALAYSIA

EDITORS

**CECILIA NG
RUSASLINA IDRUS
LAI WAN TENG**

Overview of
Women's and Gender Studies in Malaysia

Overview of Women's and Gender Studies in Malaysia

Editors

Cecilia Ng, Rusalina Idrus,
and Lai Wan Teng



Copyright © Institut Wanita Berdaya (IWB) 2018

Published jointly by:

Institut Wanita Berdaya (IWB)
IWB Consultancy Sdn Bhd (1218559-P)
D3-6-1 (1st floor)
Dana 1 Commercial Centre,
Jalan PJU 1A/46,
47301 Petaling Jaya,
Selangor
Tel: (603) 7859 6824
Email: general.iwb@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.iwbselangor.com.my>

Gender Studies Programme
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
University of Malaya
50603 Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA
Tel: (603) 7967 5485 Fax: (603) 7967 7369
Email: fass_gender@um.edu.my
Website: <http://fass.um.edu.my/departments/gender-studies>

Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA)
Universiti Sains Malaysia
11800, USM
Pulau Pinang
MALAYSIA
Tel: (604) 653 3436 Fax: (604) 656 6379
Email: kanita@usm.my
Website: <https://kanita.usm.my/>

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia / Data Pengkatalogan-dalam-Penerbitan

Overview of Women's and Gender Studies in Malaysia / Editors: Cecilia Ng,
Rusaslina Idrus, and Lai Wan Teng
ISBN 978-967-16411-0-1
1. Women's studies–Malaysia. 2. Women's rights–Malaysia.
1. Ng, Cecilia Choon Sim, 1950-. II. Rusaslina Idrus. III. Lai, Wan Teng.
305.4209595

Printed by Vinlin Press Sdn Bhd
2 Jalan Meranti Permai 1, Meranti Permai Industrial Park
Batu 15, Jalan Puchong, 47100 Puchong, Selangor, Malaysia

Contents

Preface	vii
Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA) Universiti Sains Malaysia <i>Noraida Endut and Lai Wan Teng</i>	1
Gender Studies Programme University of Malaya <i>Lai Suat Yan</i>	13
Gender and Development Research Group Universiti Putra Malaysia <i>Zumilah Zainalaludin</i>	29
Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia <i>Jamaluddin Aziz</i>	38
Gender Studies Major Monash University Malaysia <i>Sharon A. Bong and Joseph N. Goh</i>	46
Gender and Women's Studies, Northern Corridor Research Centre Universiti Utara Malaysia <i>Norehan Abdullah</i>	57
Gender Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Universiti Malaysia Sarawak <i>Parveen Kaur and Nwanesi Peter Karubi</i>	63

Gender Perspectives and Independent Research	
Universiti Teknologi MARA Malaysia	72
<i>Kiranjit Kaur</i>	
Editors' and Contributors' Notes	78

Preface

Institut Wanita Berdaya (IWB), together with the Gender Studies Programme, University of Malaya and the Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA), Universiti Sains Malaysia, is pleased to present a compilation of existing women's and gender studies programmes in Malaysian tertiary educational institutions. This timely publication is one of the outputs of an IWB funded research project entitled *Gender Studies in Selangor: A Scoping Study*. A main objective of this project was to develop and promote gender studies in Selangor state sponsored educational institutions and to upscale the knowledge and awareness of state, local government officers, as well as community leaders in women's and gender issues as noted in the Selangor Women's Policy. While admittedly the original brief which was proposed in early 2018 focused on Selangor, the recent political changes in the country meant that it is important to expand the scope to look at gender studies in a more holistic manner and at the national level.

Gender studies programmes have been in existence in Malaysia since the 1970s, several of which have been institutionalised in the premier universities in Malaysia. It is important that they not only continue to be provided support, but that many more institutions of higher learning introduce or integrate gender into their teaching and research programmes. In addition, these institutions should not remain as ivory towers but they should also engage with the government and community, particularly the marginalised, to overcome gender and social inequality in society.

This collection is an update from the 2009 KANITA publication entitled '*A Profile of Women's and Gender Studies in Malaysia*', edited by Cecilia Ng and Rashidah Shuib. I would like to thank KANITA in extending their cooperation for IWB to publish a revised and updated version of this profile. My appreciation to our research consultants Dr Cecilia Ng and Dr Rusalina Idrus, who together with Dr Lai Wan Teng, collated and coedited this publication. Our contributors from the various local universities have also

spent precious time to narrate the gender programmes in their respective institutions and I thank them for their whole hearted commitment and dedication to this field of enquiry. Thanks also go to Dr Chin Peng Kit who, as Technical Editor, while respecting the various writing styles, polished through the many drafts diligently. Last but not least I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Selangor State Government on the allocation of funds provided throughout this study.

I hope this modest effort will inspire others to deepen their knowledge of women's and gender issues and to work for the advancement and empowerment of women towards a Malaysia Baharu!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Siti Mariah". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

YB Dr Siti Mariah Binti Mahmud

Chair

Institut Wanita Berdaya

Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA)

Universiti Sains Malaysia

Noraida Endut and Lai Wan Teng

History and background of programme

The Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA) is the first centre of its kind in Malaysia, pioneering a field which was little known and marginalised in the country's academe. KANITA is also responsible for charting the earliest history of feminism and feminist advocacy in Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Beginning with the establishment of a UNICEF-funded research cluster on women, children, and poverty in 1978, through which it gained the acronym KANITA (representing the combined Malay words for women and children), the Centre has evolved into a centre of excellence in USM, reflecting forty years of critical thinking in the development of theoretical and methodological tools and policy strategies that aim to equalise and mainstream gender in education and nation-building. The last decades have provided a solid foundation for the rise of a new kind of academic culture where women and gender programmes are enriched with multi- and inter-disciplinary interaction with the generic disciplines of social sciences, humanities, management, communication, education and medical sciences, health, and pharmaceutical sciences. Through applied and policy research, innovations in training, publication, and networking, both nationally and globally, KANITA has brought new meaning to the process of engendering knowledge, thus bringing feminist and gender perspectives to the forefront of academic thinking.

KANITA achieved its current status as an autonomous research centre within the university on 17 April 2001. The endorsement by the University

Senate of KANITA's position demonstrated USM's commitment to lead in the exploration of new thinking and knowledge that considers gender an important analytical framework for theory and research. The university's ongoing support also reflects converging efforts and dedication of academic members from various disciplines towards championing gender equality, equity, and justice in the society, both theoretically and in practice.

Vision

The Centre's stated vision is for "Transforming society towards gender equality and social justice."

Mission

As a centre of excellence, KANITA is committed towards research, co-creation of knowledge, advocacy, and community engagement, utilising and promoting a gender and social equality framework. It strives to impact the academe, the state, women, and society at large by being a preferred reference point and strategic partner for change.

Objectives

- i. To intensify the impact and significance of KANITA as a centre of reference for women's and gender issues in the region and globally through conducting multi-disciplinary research in critical areas and utilising the findings to advocate for social transformation;
- ii. To produce and disseminate knowledge through publications that build theory, respond to policy issues, stimulate and reach out to public consciousness;
- iii. To establish academic programmes of international standing that democratise education through empowering traditional and non-traditional learners;
- iv. To initiate, engage and advocate for gender and social transformation through multiple strategies, working with diverse communities and entities; and

- v. To lead in the development and be a strategic partner in the co-creation of accessible and impactful knowledge on women's and gender issues.

Structure

KANITA is headed by a Director and consists of active and highly committed academic and administrative staff. The centre's activities are guided by an academic Board whose membership comprises multi-disciplined scholars (appointed by the Vice Chancellor), who are greatly dedicated in advancing knowledge about gender. They range from lecturers to professors in the fields that span the range of sciences (e.g. health sciences, medical sciences, and biological sciences) and the arts (e.g. law, anthropology, sociology, economics, communication, psychology, management, and humanities). Their expertise and commitment are pivotal in shaping the academic and research programmes in KANITA. Their multi-disciplinary backgrounds offer postgraduate candidates appropriate and dynamic supervision in a variety of research areas. The diverse academic disciplines represented by the Board Members ensure that wide-ranging and inclusive research is conducted at KANITA that consistently applies the gender lens as a fundamental approach to analyses. KANITA is able to work towards transforming society in ways that benefit a wide variety of stakeholders.

Staff profile

Dr Noraida Endut, Professor and Director

Dr Nor Hafizah Selamat, Associate Professor and Senior Research Fellow

Dr Sharifah Zalhura Syed Abdullah, Senior Lecturer

Dr Lai Wan Teng, Lecturer

Dr Zaireeni Azmi, Lecturer

Dr Leila Mohaher, Visiting Lecturer

Dr Reyhaneh Bagheri, Teaching Fellow

Dr Belayeth Hussain, Teaching Fellow

Academic programmes

Postgraduate programmes by research

KANITA offers postgraduate studies for those interested in pursuing women's or gender studies by research. These programmes lead to the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy and Master in Social Sciences (Gender Studies). Programmes are designed to produce graduates who are gender-sensitive in various work cultures and organisations, equipping those from various basic disciplines with knowledge and analytical skills of looking at the social world through a more comprehensive and inclusive manner.

The postgraduate programmes at KANITA aim at developing and enhancing the candidates' analytical and practical skills in their chosen disciplines through the use and framework of a gender lens. This lens operates through the idea that gender matters to structures, theories, and practices in any discipline and that the lived realities of those in society, particularly women, are highly pertinent subjects of deep inquiry.

Students who have enrolled in KANITA over the years have been both international and local students and have come from a range of academic and professional backgrounds. Up to the present day, there are students who have completed their first degrees in various fields or professionals who worked in the government sector, academia, non-governmental organisations, or in the private sector or industry. KANITA offers higher degrees to persons wishing to utilise research frameworks that address problems through questioning contexts of gender and social inequalities. This is with a view to them using the expertise they acquired through the research degree programmes to enhance their problem-solving skills and advocacy towards social justice in the different arenas of their vocations and work.

To equip students with fundamental knowledge and skills in gender studies, especially where they have not been exposed to the discipline before, all postgraduate students in KANITA are required to enrol in and pass two pre-requisite courses, namely, Gender Theories and Research Methods, and Analysis for Gender Studies.

Master in Social Sciences (Gender Studies) mixed mode

As part of KANITA's plan to increase gender studies' visibility in the Malaysian academe and based on various regional and global developments

concerning gender studies, KANITA is in the process of establishing a new academic programme that uses the mixed mode approach.

A Master in Social Sciences (Gender Studies) (Mixed Mode) is being planned for implementation in the academic year 2019/2020. This programme is to be introduced to mainstream women's and gender studies of higher degree programmes in Malaysian universities. The programme will aim at, among others, introducing to students from multi-disciplined backgrounds critical gender studies discourses, which include the analyses of social relations between women and men, and how norms and practices in these relations impact women's lives, as well as building students' competencies and perceptiveness in analysing elements that contribute towards gender and social inequalities.

The mixed mode programme creates a path for students who wish to enhance their knowledge and skills within a structure that combines teaching and learning with research. Students who wish to go deeper into research at PhD level may also benefit from this programme because it provides a transition between a fully-taught course approach at the undergraduate level and a highly independent research environment at PhD level.

Life-long learning and capacity building programmes

KANITA sees dissemination and engagement of knowledge at all levels of society through research and advocacy as essential to its work. Towards this end, KANITA adopts multiple platforms to reach out to members of society who otherwise would not have access to higher institutions of learning or who have left the tertiary education environment.

KANITA has embarked on two projects that leverage on technology to engage with non-conventional learners in order to encourage them to access gender studies knowledge. Using the mode of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), in 2016 KANITA introduced the online course of Introduction to Gender Studies in the ASEAN Context. Aiming at a wide variety of audience (casual learners, information seekers, persons needing to understand gender concepts within a short time, and persons requiring knowledge in different aspects of ASEAN), this course introduces women's and gender studies by highlighting discourses on the social and cultural constructions of being female and male, and the relations and positions of women and men in society, with a specific focus on contemporary application and development in the ASEAN

region. The course is offered at <https://www.openlearning.com/courses/introductiontowomensandgenderstudiesinthecontextofasean>.

In the pipeline there is also the project of “MOOC for Single Mothers”, which proposes to offer various MOOC courses that can help marginalised women, particularly disadvantaged single mothers, to acquire skills and build capacity to improve their livelihood and wellbeing. This project is funded through an Erasmus+ CBHE project with a broad title of “Capacity to organise massive public educational opportunities in universities of Southeast Asia” and will involve collaboration with ten universities in Southeast Asia and Europe.

KANITA also contributes towards the capacity building of women and communities beyond the university community by offering training programmes. KANITA has conducted trainings on violence against women for the NAM Institute for the Empowerment of Women, which targeted officers in the government having the responsibility to respond to the issue of violence against women. KANITA has also provided training on responding to sexual harassment in multiple workplaces. More recently, KANITA collaborated with the Harpswell Foundation to train early-career women in ASEAN in aspects of leadership.

Research

Research is an important core priority for KANITA. In research, the aim is to conduct inter- and trans-disciplinary research in critical areas of women's and gender issues and to utilise the findings for social transformation and advocacy activities. Research findings are not only meant to have policy impact but are also aimed at stimulating intellectual and public discourses on women's and gender issues. This fits well with USM's emphasis on the importance of the university to be engaged with the community and not remain aloof as an ivory tower. Thus, research and dissemination of findings are often done in collaboration with government and non-government organisations and other strategic partners outside of the university. KANITA has conducted research in several areas that have largely been neglected in academic considerations for research in Malaysia. It has studied, among others, the issues of domestic violence, sexual harassment, child marriage, women's economic empowerment, Muslim family law, and masculinity. KANITA will continue to conduct research in important and emerging areas

related to women and gender. KANITA also plans to widen the scope of its studies to more regional and international research sites.

Current research projects are:

- i. Harpswell ASEAN Programme in Women's Leadership (External Grant: Harpswell Foundation);
- ii. Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights of Women Migrant Workers in Malaysia: NGOs Capacity Building and Women's Empowerment (External Grant: United Nations Country Team - Gender Theme);
- iii. Promoting Family Friendly Work Environment: A Study of Maternity Protection Relating to, and Beyond, Pregnancy (USM Research Grant);
- iv. Women's Visibility at the Decision Making Level: The Case Study of Women in Public Universities in Malaysia (USM Research Grant);
- v. Enhancing Income Sources and Economic Activities in an Effort to Empower the Orang Asli Temiar Community (*Meningkatkan Sumber Pendapatan dan Aktiviti Ekonomi dalam Usaha Memperkasakan Komuniti Orang Asli Temiar*)(Grant of USM National Blue Ocean Strategy 4);
- vi. The Effects of Linguistics Variation and Doctors' Gender on the Treatment of Patients in Penang Island (USM Short-term Grant);
- vii. Emotional Labour, Work Intensification, Work-Life Balance, and Intention to Leave: Uncovering the Experience of Academics in Malaysian Universities Through a Gender Lens (USM Short-term Grant); and
- viii. Empowering and Advancing Community towards a Sustainable GRPB Initiative: The People-Centred Perspective (External Grant: Penang Women's Development Corporation).

Networking

KANITA has established networks with women's organisations globally through activities involving exchange programmes, research, and training collaborations. Links with NGOs usually involve information dissemination and partnerships in workshops, seminars, and conferences.

Networking activities and organisations that KANITA has linked with include:

- i. A training collaboration programme on “Harpwell ASEAN Program in Women’s Leadership” with Harpwell Foundation;
- ii. A project on “Changing Family and Challenges of Engendering Government Policy: A Comparative Study in Selected ASEAN Countries and Japan” in collaboration with Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY);
- iii. A project on “Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights of Women Migrant Workers In Malaysia: NGO’s Capacity Building and Women’s Empowerment” in collaboration with the United Nations Country Team-Gender Theme and Middlesex University, United Kingdom;
- iv. Consultancy for research and data analysis project on “Empowering and Advancing Community towards a Sustainable GRPB Initiative: The People-Centred Perspective” with Penang Women’s Development Corporation Sdn. Bhd.;
- v. Academic collaboration with Middlesex University, United Kingdom;
- vi. Health and gender related research and training with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health Malaysia;
- vii. Gender-focused training programmes and consultancies in collaboration with agencies and organisations such as the NAM Institute for the Empowerment of Women (NIEW), Asia Pacific Research and Resource Centre for Women (ARROW), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation (NWTF);
- viii. Information sharing, advocacy, and research links with NGOs such as the Women’s Centre for Change (WCC) Penang, Sisters in Islam (SIS), All Women’s Action Society Malaysia (AWAM), and Women’s Aid Organisation (WAO);
- ix. Founding member of the Association of Asian Women’s Studies (AAWS), Korea; and
- x. Joint collaboration with Korean Women’s Development Institute (KWDI).

In its effort to strengthen the academic and research standing of gender studies, KANITA has initiated an intensive and purposeful discussion on the future of the discipline with members of gender studies programmes in universities and academic centres in Malaysia and the ASEAN region. Through these efforts, it is hoped that the relevant gender studies programmes may collectively contribute towards knowledge building and discourses on women and gender, especially from local and regional perspectives.

Challenges

KANITA, like many other academic institutions offering gender studies programmes worldwide, finds it challenging to maintain a high profile, within the university and without, and to attract students. KANITA also recognises the need to intensify its momentum in conducting and advancing its research and to interlink various perspectives. One way in which the Centre is trying to achieve this is, for example, by interfacing gender and ethnicity with class and empowerment within the context of multi-ethnic Malaysia. KANITA also recognises that much of the theory written for gender studies is dominated by Western perspectives. While this is certainly a challenge, it also presents an opportunity to gender studies' academicians to inform and enrich their respective disciplines. In order to overcome these challenges, the Centre is trying to establish a core team of academics who can lead each of the research thrust areas.

Too often, KANITA finds that rather than being publicised, its research is shelved. To overcome this, KANITA needs the media to publish its research findings in readable forms. By giving the results a high profile, the media could bring gender studies to the forefront of the public's consciousness, creating space for further discussions. At the end of the day, the ultimate challenge is to sustain an environment within the campus, and beyond, which is committed to gender equality and is free from gender stereotypes and patriarchy.

Contact : Professor Dr Noraida Endut

Address : Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA)
Universiti Sains Malaysia
11800 Pulau Pinang
Malaysia

Tel : +604 653 2678/ 3436
 Fax : +604 656 6379
 E-mail : kanita@usm.my
 Website : <https://kanita.usm.my/>

Selected publications

- Ang, M. C. H. (2017). The challenges and benefits of employing persons with disabilities: The Japanese multinational corporations' perspective. *International Journal of Innovation, Management and Technology*, 8(5), 359-366.
- Ang, M. C. H., & Amin, H. (2016). Why emotion at work matters: Examining the influence of emotional labour and emotional intelligence on workplace behaviours among service workers in East Malaysia. *Kajian Malaysia*, 34(1), 79-105.
- Azwan, A. A., Intan Hashimah, M. H., & Noraida, E. (2015). Don't marry, be happy!- How single women in Malaysia view marriage. *SHS Web of Conferences*, 18 03001. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1051/shsconf/20151803001>
- Azwan, A. A., Noraida, E., Intan Hashimah, M. H., Hafizah, S., & Ying, K. (2017). Negotiation with patriarchy in women's lives: A case study in a Malaysian public university. *Journal of Business and Economics Review (JBER)*, 2(1), 28-35.
- Chee, H. L., Lu, M. C. W., & Yeoh, B. S. A. (2014). Ethnicity, citizenship and reproduction: Taiwanese wives making citizenship claims in Malaysia. *Citizenship Studies*, 18(8), 823-838.
- Chee, H. L., Yeoh, B. S. A., & Rashidah, S. (2012). Circuitous pathways: Marriage as a route toward (il)legality for Indonesian migrant workers in Malaysia. *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, 21(3), 317-344.
- Hafizah, S., Farah Syazwani, H. A., & Noraida, E. (2017). The lived experiences and narratives of the de facto single mothers in Penang Island, Malaysia. *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 25(1), 417-424.
- Hafizah, S., Noraida, E., Intan, O., Mazidah, M., Farah Syazwani, H. A., & Maimun, M.Z. (2015). Empowering single mothers towards livelihood improvement through university-community engagement. A case study of KANITA's project on single mothers. In Noraida Endut & Dyah Mutiarin (Eds.), *Towards good governance, leadership and decent livelihood for women: some experiences of Malaysia and Indonesia* (pp. 157-179). Yogyakarta: JKSG and Pustaka Pelajar.
- Haile, H. B., Intan, O., Rashidah, S., & Siti Waringin, O. (2014). Is there a convergence or divergence between feminist empowerment and microfinance institutions' success indicators? *Journal of International Development*, 27(7), 1042-1057.
- Haja, M. A. K., Noraida, E., Hafizah, S., Intan Hashimah, M. H., & Azwan, A. A. (2016). Juveniles and their parents: Narratives of male and female adolescents in rehabilitation centres. *World Applied Sciences Journal*, 34(12), 1834-1839.
- Hussain, A. H. M. B., & Noraida, E. (2018). Application of SEM using smart PLS: Examining decent working conditions of small enterprises. *SAGE Research Methods Cases*. doi:10.4135/9781526445698
- Hussain, A. H. M. B., & Noraida, E. (2018). Do decent working conditions contribute

- to work-life balance of small entrepreneurs in Bangladesh? *Asia Pacific Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship*, 12(1), 90-104.
- Hussain, A. H. M. B., & Noraida, E. (2018). Factors influencing working conditions of small enterprises in Sylhet City, Bangladesh. *Development in Practice*, 28(1), 138 - 151.
- Lai, W. T. (2017). We come. We work. We relate. The migrant labourers in Penang. Online Publications at German Universities Bonn, Univ., Diss., URN: urn:nbn:de:hbz:5-48950
- Lai, W. T. (2011). Gender and Livelihood: A Case Study of the Mah Meri and the Oil Palm Plantations of Carey Island. *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*, 17(2), 66-95.
- Mohajer, L., & Jan, J. M. (2018). Building solidarity through interruption in face-to-face interaction amongst Iranian Men. *GEMA Online® Journal of Language Studies*, 18(2), 46-58.
- Mohajer, L. (2015). "Take Over Take Over/You are Teachers/Take Over": Disagreements and the construction of power among women. *International Journal of Social Science and Humanity*, 5(12), 1017-1023.
- Ng, C., Noraida, E., & Rashidah, S. (2011). *Our lived realities: Reading gender in Malaysia*. Penang: Universiti Sains Malaysia Press.
- Noraida, E., & Intan Hashimah, M.H. (2018). Justice and enforcement agencies personnel in Malaysia and their views about domestic violence, marriage and religion. In Andrew Harding & Dian Shah (Eds.), *Law and society in Malaysia: Pluralism, religion and ethnicity* (pp.189-214). London: Taylor & Francis Ltd.
- Noraida, E. & Intan Hashimah, M. H. (2011). The nature and impact of domestic violence: A study of survivors of wife abuse in Malaysia. In Cecilia Ng, Noraida Endut & Rashidah Shuib (Eds.). *Our lived realities: Reading gender in Malaysia* (pp.43-64). Penang: Universiti Sains Malaysia Press.
- Noraida, E. (2015). Reconstructing justice for women in the courts: an investigation of Syariah court processes in Malaysia. In Ragnhild Lund, Philippe Doneys & Bernadette P. Resurreccion (Eds.), *Gendered entanglements: revisiting gender in rapidly changing Asia* (pp.263-292). Copenhagen: NIAS Press.
- Noraida, E. (2011). Gender and power in extra-legal intervention in cases of wife abuse in Malaysia. *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*, 17(4), 39-68.
- Noraida, E. (2011). Women, law and justice: The case of domestic violence in Malaysia. In Cecilia Ng, Noraida Endut & Rashidah Shuib (Eds.). *Our lived realities: reading gender in Malaysia* (pp.150-163). Penang: Universiti Sains Malaysia Press.
- Noraida, E., & Kapai, P. (2014). *Due diligence and state responsibility to eliminate violence against women, regional report: Asia Pacific*. Massachusetts: International Human Rights Initiative, Inc. (IHRI).
- Noraida, E., Azwan, A. A., & Intan Hashimah, M. H. (2015). Formal and informal support systems for single women and single mothers in Malaysia. *SHS Web of Conference* 18 03002. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1051/shsconf/20151803002>
- Noraida, E., Intan Hashimah, M. H., & Azwan, A. A. (2015). Young adults' perceptions of marriage and domestic violence in Malaysia. In Eun Kyung Kim et al. (Eds.). *Translating women's experience into classroom teaching: gender and development cases in ASEAN and Korea*. Seoul: KWDI.
- Rashidah, S., Intan, O., Noraida, E., Sarimah, A., Puzziawati, A. G. Siti Waringin, O., Siti Hawa, A., & Husna, S. S. S. (2016). Attitudes towards intimate partner violence of

- Indian women in Malaysia. In Rashidah Shuib, Diana Wong & Noraida Endut (Eds.). *Debating gender justice in Asia* (pp. 60-78). Penang: Penerbit USM.
- Rashidah, S., Noraida, E., Siti Hawa, A., Intan, O., Sarimah, A., Siti Waringin, O., Puzziawati, A. G., et al. (2013). Domestic violence and women's well-being in Malaysia: Issues and challenges conducting a national study using the WHO multi-country questionnaire on women's health and domestic violence against women. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 9, 475-488.
- Rashidah, S., Wong, D., & Noraida, E. (Eds.). (2016). *Debating gender justice in Asia*. Penang: Penerbit USM.
- Ratthinan, S. P., & Hafizah, S. (2017). Understanding the push and pull motivational factors of technology usage for traveling among women students in USM, Penang. *Journal of Information System and Technology Management (JISTM)*, 2(3), 52-63.
- Sharifah Zahhura, S.A., Nilan, P & Germov, J. (2016). Postpartum dietary restrictions and taboos among indigenous Temiar women in Peninsular Malaysia: A qualitative study. *Malaysian Journal of Nutrition*, 22(2), 207-218.
- Siti Waringin, O., Rashidah, S., Siti Hawa, A., Noraida, E., Intan, O., Sarimah, A. & Puzziawati, A. G. (2016). Exploring the coping mechanism of women experiencing intimate partner violence. *International e-Journal of Advances in Social Sciences*, 2(5), 598-602.
- Siti Waringin, O., Rashidah, S., Siti Hawa, A., Noraida, E., Intan, O., Sarimah, A., Husna, S. S. S., & Puzziawati, A. G. (2013). Similarities and differences between rural and urban women on the risk factors of intimate partner violence in Malaysia. *International Journal of Arts and Social Sciences*, 2(3), 117-124.
- Siti Waringin, O., Rashidah, S., Siti Hawa, A., Noraida, E., Sarimah, A., Puzziawati, A. G. & Intan, O. (2015). To reveal or to conceal. The experiences of women with intimate partner violence in Malaysia. *International Journal of Management and Applied Science*, 1(10), 88-90.
- Siti Waringin, O., Rashidah, S., Siti Hawa, A., Noraida, E., Sarimah, A., Husna, S. S. S., Prabakaran, G., Saffiah, N.H., & Puzziawati, A. G. (2012). Health consequences of women with intimate partner violence in Malaysia. *Humanities and Social Sciences Review*, 1(2), 117-123.
- Teong, K. V., & Ang, M. C. H. (2016). Internet use and addiction among students in Malaysian public universities in East Malaysia: Some empirical evidence. *Journal of Management Research*, 8(2), 31-47.
- Yeoh, B. S. A., Chee, H. L., & Baey, G. H. Y. (2013). The place of Vietnamese marriage migrants in Singapore: social reproduction, social 'problems' and social protection. *Third World Quarterly*, 34(10), 1927-1941.
- Yeoh, B. S. A., Chee, H. L., & Thi, K. D. V. (2014). Global householding and the negotiation of intimate labour in commercially-matched international marriages between Vietnamese women and Singaporean men. *Geoforum*, 51, 284-293.
- Zaireeni, A. (2017). Women representation in the Malaysian politics. In Mohd Aziziddin Mohd Sani & Ummu Atiyah Ahmad Zakuan (Eds.), *Democracy at work in Malaysia*. (pp. 131-150). Penerbit UUM.
- Zaireeni, A. (2016). Women and the 'New Politics' in Malaysia: The case of the Muslimat. In Rashidah Shuib, Diana Wong & Noraida Endut (Eds.), *Debating Gender Justice in Asia* (pp. 119-132). Penang: Penerbit USM.

Gender Studies Programme

University of Malaya

Lai Suat Yan

History and background

The Gender Studies Programme (GSP) in University Malaya was officially established during the academic session 1994/1995 under the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. While efforts of founding it started about ten years earlier, it was only when Datuk Dr Nik Safiah Karim (conferred Prof Emeritus in 2002) became the Dean of the Faculty that the formation of the Gender Studies Programme became a reality. This underscored the importance of women's leadership that embraces a gender lens to champion such a programme. It was named Gender Studies as it was perceived to be more inclusive and acceptable compared to 'women's studies'.

The curriculum that was developed examines and investigates the embedded unequal gender power relations in society, at work, in politics, and in the institution of the family, media, and religion. The narratives weaved throughout the courses challenge the stereotypical understanding of femininity and masculinity and the perception of women as the weaker and subordinate sex. The discourses adopted are along the lines of gender equality, social justice, and women's rights as human rights.

Objectives

The objectives of the GSP are as follows:

- to teach and learn the gender perspective and the feminist standpoint through the various courses offered;
- to engage in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research from the gender perspective;

- to contribute to community development through raising gender awareness at all societal levels;
- to train future academics, policymakers, lawmakers, activists and others who are committed to the principles of gender equality and social justice; and
- to adopt a pedagogy that enhances students' soft skills that include communication, writing, leadership, and working in group or independently.

The programme adopts an interdisciplinary approach in both teaching and research. It has brought together scholars from different disciplines to teach courses or conduct research with gender as the main analytical tool. Courses that have been developed include theory, methodology, family, religion, development, politics, media, law, masculinity, sexuality, and science and technology. Various discourses, for example, on class, culture, ethnicity, the nation, modernity, and globalisation are also examined in these courses. With feminist insights forming its core, the various curricula continue to engage with critical, postmodern and postcolonial perspectives.

Structure and development over the years

In its initial years, academics from different disciplines offered courses in the programme on a voluntary basis. Currently, it has five full-time academics from various disciplinary or inter-disciplinary backgrounds. The University Malaya GSP, as the first initiative in Malaysia to offer a systematic undergraduate teaching programme, is groundbreaking. From its inception until the academic session 2014/2015, the GSP offered a minor programme where students were required to take nine courses equivalent to 27 credit hours, with three credit hours per course.

However, educational policy changes and/or shifts in emphasis have impacted the GSP. Firstly, the favouring of the sciences discipline over the arts at the national level caused the student intake to decrease drastically at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. In stark contrast to the offered intake of 1,364 students at its peak in 1999/2000, the numbers are currently 426 and 402 in the academic sessions of 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 respectively. Furthermore, the number of students who finally took up the offer was

generally lower than the figures for the offered intake. At the height of its academic session (1999/2000 and 2000/2001), the GSP on average had 45 and 58 students per course respectively. With 15 courses offered, there was a total of 870 registrations for the 2000/2001 academic session. The total number of students was lower as those minoring may have taken a few courses in an academic year. The average number of students registered for gender courses for the past three academic years have been constant at 16 students with 15 to 16 courses offered each academic session. After the curriculum review in 2014 and starting from the academic session 2015/2016, the minor programme ceased as it was replaced by the elective department courses. Consequently, all the GSP courses are now offered as electives.

Courses at the first level, namely, AZEA 1101 Introduction to Gender Studies and AZEA 1102 Gender, Society and Culture registered the highest number of students at 114 and 123 respectively during the 1999/2000 academic session. Generally, first level courses had a higher number of students because these were compulsory core courses for those who minor in gender studies. These courses were also more popular as electives. The diverse range of students who took gender courses as electives enriched the programme as they were from different fields of studies including the Faculties of Law, Medicine, Economics, Engineering, and Malay Studies and Islamic Studies. The number of minoring students at its peak is estimated to be between 50 to 60. In general, there are more female students taking the courses with the highest percentage of male students recorded at 30 percent.

Secondly, when Tan Sri Dr Ghauth Jasmon became the Vice-Chancellor of University Malaya from 2008-2013, he vigorously pursued the vision of internationalisation as part of the efforts to improve the ranking of the university. He subsequently established international exchange programmes with each department being requested to offer three courses per semester in English. Prior to this, courses were offered with Malay as the medium of instruction. The GSP started by offering three courses per semester in English, although currently all its courses are open to international students.

Thirdly, with University Malaya being granted the status of a Research University in 2007, the present focus is to establish a taught Master Programme at the GSP.

Finally, prior to the 14th General Election, there has been discussion to establish a liberal arts programme at the University of Malaya with

English as the medium of instruction. If this is pursued, GSP may be able to offer a minor programme again or even a major one if there is sufficient institutional support in terms of funding and allocation of human resources.

Staffing

The GSP currently has five full-time academic staff and one clerical support. Over the years there have been visiting lecturers and research fellows attached to the programme.

Full-time Academic Staff

Dr Lai Suat Yan (Coordinator)

Assoc Prof Dr Shanthi Thambiah

Dr Rusaslina Idrus

Dr Alicia Izharuddin

Dr Ruhana Padzil

Administrative Support

Mohd Sazali Haimi

Current Programme

Undergraduate teaching programme

After the curriculum review in 2014, departments at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences become more inward looking with students mainly taking courses from within their respective departments. Students are required to take 27 credit hours as elective courses from their own department in addition to around 57 credit hours for their department major courses. While there is the option of taking nine credit hours from other departments under the department electives II programme, only the English Department has opted for it. This is a survival strategy by departments to ensure that their academic staff have sufficient teaching hours given the severe reduction in the intake of students.

The new system will be fully operational in the coming 2018/19 academic session. The implication is once the students from the old cohorts finish in two to three years' time, the GSP will only be offering elective courses for the

English Department and international exchange students. This is in addition to a gender course being designated as a faculty elective and another as an elective outside the faculty.

There are 24 total number of courses that have been developed over the years and are as follows:

AZEA 1101	Introduction to Gender Studies
AZEA 1102	Gender, Society and Culture
AZEA 1103	Gender Theories
AZEA 1104	Gender and Development
AZEA 2307	Gender and Citizenship
AZEA 2182	Gender Research Methodology
AZEA 3301	Gender and Law
AZEA 3304	Gender Issues in the Media
AZEA 3306	Gender and Sexuality
*AZEA 2302	Gender and Environment
*AZEA 2303	Gender and Politics
*AZEA 2304	Gender and the Family
*AZEA 2305	Gender Issues in Non-Governmental Organisations
*AZEA 2306	Gender, Science and Technology
*AZEA 2308	Understanding Childhood and Research with Children
*AZEA 3302	Gender and Work
*AZEA 3303	Gender, Religion, Adat (Culture) and Social Change
*AZEA 3305	Gender, Conflict and Peace
*AZEA 3307	Gender and Social Justice
*AZEA 3308	Gender and Masculinity
**AIO 2008	Gender and Interfaith Dialogue
**AIO 2009	Indigenous Knowledge and Gender
**AIO 3008	Gender, Memory and History
**AIO 3009	Gender in Muslim Communities

* Courses that are also offered with a different code starting with AIO are meant for the new cohort of students while AZEA is for the older cohorts.

** Courses developed just prior to the curriculum review in 2014 utilise only the AIO code.

Postgraduate teaching programme

Discussions held over the years to chart the future path of the GSP have, at times, been split between those who prefer to offer a major undergraduate teaching programme, while others prefer offering a taught Master Programme. In the context of University Malaya as a research university, the GSP ultimately opted to develop a taught Master Programme in Gender Studies. Courses have been developed and the proposed taught programme comprises of core and elective courses as follows:

A) Compulsory Core Courses

- Gender and Feminist Theory in the Developing World
- Introduction to Feminist Methodology
- Dissertation in Gender Studies
- Gender Studies Practicum

B) Elective Gender Courses

- Gender, Sexualities, and Freedom of Expression
- Gender, Development, and Violence
- Gender, Empowerment, and the Media
- Constructing Gender, and Nation, in Film and Literature
- Gender, Migration, and Diasporas
- Gender and Intercultural Dialogue for Peace-building in Communities
- Transnational Feminisms
- Mainstreaming Gender in Governance and Public Policy

Following the requirement of the Ministry of Education, the GSP is in the process of completing the paperwork for the taught Master Programme that includes conducting a market survey and benchmarking with other similar programmes offered in the region.

Research

The GSP academic staff are mainly involved in team-based research reflecting the university management's emphasis on research funding with the rationale that researchers with different disciplinary or interdisciplinary backgrounds will enrich the data collected. As GSP offers postgraduate degrees by research, Master and Doctorate students also undertake research

to obtain their degrees. Based on available data collected since 2007, eight Doctoral and six Master students registered under GSP have graduated. Currently, there are 15 Doctoral students and one Master student affiliated with the GSP. In addition, academic staff at GSP have also been supervising or co-supervising students registered under other departments, institutes, or faculties. Under the PhD mobility programme, the GSP academic staff can and do supervise postgraduate students from overseas universities who are attached here for one or two semesters. The current research interests and areas of expertise at GSP are as follows:

- Gendered violence (sexual harassment and sexual assault)
- Gender, religion, and social change
- Gender and development
- Gender, law, and governance
- Gender and legal anthropology
- Gender and political ecology
- Democracy, women's rights, and the women's movements
- Gender, social, and political history
- Gender, peace, and conflict studies
- Gender and humanitarian aid
- Changing gender relations and livelihoods amongst indigenous minorities in Malaysia
- Gender roles and the transformation of the institution of the family
- Gender and work
- Gender, migration, and care work
- Gender and social policy
- Gender and socialisation
- Gender and sexuality
- Gender, media, film, and social media
- Masculinity and class
- Gender and childhood
- Gender and education
- Gender and literature
- Gender equality at the workplace
- Gender, urban poverty, and the informal sector
- Gender, ethnicity, and class
- Gender and ethnicity in union organising in institutions of higher learning

The most recent international collaborations in academic and research related activities and projects include:

- The Newton-Ungku Omar Grant to visit the Department of Anthropology, University of Edinburgh and present a paper in the United Kingdom in 2017
- The Nippon Foundation Grant to conduct research on religious women in Indonesia, Japan, and Thailand in 2014

Networking

International and professional organisations

The GSP has both international and local networks that it works with on selected and important issues of concern. One of its current international networks is the Philippine Commission on Higher Education that leads the efforts at the ASEAN level to mainstream gender in higher education. Other networks are the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission for Human Rights, the Educational International ASEAN Women's Network and its network of unions in higher education globally, Women Living under Muslim Laws (WLUML), the ASEAN Gender Studies Network, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The international networks that supported GSP during its formative years were the Canadian Cooperative and Support Office (CIDA), the Gender and Development Centre of the Asia Pacific Development Centre (APDC), the Committee for International Co-operation in Higher Education (CICHE) under the British Council, and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES).

The local networks that GSP academic staff work with are the Joint Action Group for Gender Equality (JAG), the Malaysian Academic Movement (GERAK), and the academic staff associations at the various institutions of higher learning in Malaysia. Other local networks include the Association of Women Lawyers (AWL), Women's Aid Organisation (WAO), Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), Malaysian Social Science Association (PSSM), Bar Council, Centre for Poverty and Development Studies, and the Health Research Unit of the Faculty of Medicine at UM (MERDU).

Community activities

The GSP academic staff have been involved in various community activities, from conducting training and workshops to undertaking gender analysis for national policies. They have been involved in training or as speakers on various topics, for example, gender sensitisation programmes, sexual harassment, cyber harassment for government agencies and non-governmental organisations. Over the years, these organisations include Projek Dialog, Young Women Making Change, Malaysian Centre for Constitutionalism and Human Rights (MCCHR), the National Council of Women's Organisations (NCWO), the Women's Aid Organisation (WAO), Empower, the National Youth Consultation (Bar Council and Youth for Change), the National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN), the NAM Institute for the Empowerment of Women (NIEW) under the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, and the Gender Caucus of the Malaysian Parliament.

In addition, university students, namely, the students of the law faculty and from the Democrat group have also invited GSP academic staff as speakers or for interviews to support their campaign against sexual harassment on campus. The continuous activism by the GSP academic staff against sexual harassment is going nationwide (from 2018) with roadshows organised under the Malaysian Academic Movement (GERAK) to combat sexual harassment on campus in institutions of higher learning in Malaysia.

Since 2015, a monthly Kedai Jalanan (street store) has been initiated by the GSP faculty and students to allow the homeless or urban poor to shop for free with dignity as the clothes and items are displayed on racks or in boxes. This ongoing initiative won the Star Golden Hearts Award in 2016.

The GSP faculty has continued to support female monastics in the Buddhist Theravada tradition in Malaysia through Gotami Vihara by providing a place for them to practice and to stay during their travels in the Klang Valley.

Gender Seminar Series

The GSP conducts a Gender Seminar Series which has hosted presentations by academics and activists from universities across the world. The frequency varies depending on the availability of presenters. Some of the presenters in the last three years are as follows:

- Dr Shiori Shakuto (National University of Singapore), “Anxious Intimacy: Negotiating Gender, Value and Belonging among Japanese Retirees In Malaysia”, 26 March 2018.
- Assoc Prof Dr Johanna Zulueta (Soka University), “Aging Filipino Women in Malaysia: An Exploratory Study”, 5 March 2018.
- Ms Vilashini Somiah (National University of Singapore), “Bilang Yang Nakal-Nakal Kami (We Are The Naughty Ones): Irregular Female Migrants In Sabah And Their Agency Through The Sea Tides”, 21 November 2017.
- Prof Dr Joyce Liu (Chiao Tung University, Taiwan), “Democratisation Movement and the Birth of Cultural Studies in Taiwan”, 13 November 2017.
- Dr Ikhlas Abdul Hadi (Universiti Putra Malaysia), “Folktales, Evolution, and Women: Investigating Stories of Womanhood in the Malay Archipelago”, 31 October 2017.
- Prof Dr Syed Farid Alatas (National University of Singapore), “Visual Orientalism: Gender, Coloniality and Art”, 16 May 2017.
- Dr Juno Salazar Parrenas (Ohio State University), “The Aftermath of the US Presidential Election: Perspectives from Gender Studies”, 1 December 2016.
- Imam Khalid Latif and Priya Chandra (New York), “Discourses On Gender and Islam”, 4 August 2016.
- Dr Shalini Grover (Delhi University, India), “Who is an Expatriate? Euro-American Identities, Race and Integration in Postcolonial India”, 24 June 2016.
- Prof Dr Janet Carsten (University of Edinburgh), “Kinship and Gender as Legacy And Future”, 10 November 2016.

International Women's Day programme

GSP typically organises a series of activities to commemorate International Women's Day on 8 March. In 2018, the GSP organised a forum to discuss

the International Women's Day itself. In 2016, the programme organised a series of events, namely, an inter-faith dialogue "Faith Driven Activism: Women as Agents of Change", a cultural programme "Femspeak: Celebrating Women's Culture and Diversity", and an interactive theatre programme "Women At Work: An Interactive Play". In 2015, the GSP organised a series of activities under the theme "International Women's Day Festival 2015: Oh, My Gender". The programme included the screening of five gender-themed Malay movies followed by a discussion, three relaxed chats, as well as two writing workshops.

Exposure and activism involving students

The GSP academic staff organise exposure and campaigning activities in the courses taught to engage students with activism and related gender issues. The exposure trips include visits to the indigenous people communities, women's non-governmental organisations, and an independent production house that produces movies that explore gender issues. The GSP students volunteered and took part in the White Ribbon Campaign Run organised by the All Women's Action Society in 2015 and 2016 to raise awareness on men's role to address gender-based violence. As part of their projects, the GSP students have also conducted campaigns on sexual harassment and bringing-women-out-of-the-kitchen on campus. In addition, they have also volunteered to coordinate and run the street store for the homeless and urban poor known as Kedai Jalanan (street store).

Current policy interventions and impact

The academic staff at the GSP have continuously lent their expertise to conduct research for advocacy purposes, particularly for non-governmental organisations. The two latest projects include:

- Baseline study on gender (in)equality in the legal profession in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor commissioned in 2013 by the Association of Women Lawyers in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) and Women's Aid Organisation (WAO); and
- National research project: A study on the impact of polygamy on the quality of family life amongst Muslims in Malaysia from 2007 – 2011 commissioned by Sisters in Islam.

An area of sustained policy intervention helmed by the GSP academic staff through the involvement in the Academic Staff Association of University Malaya (PKAUM) and the Malaysian Academic Movement (GERAK) is the issue of sexual harassment. GSP expertise was recruited in drafting the Code of Practice on the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Harassment Cases in the University of Malaya. This effort was led by PKAUM. The Code was subsequently refined and adopted by the university management in 2007. In addition, this expertise was extended to chair the Subcommittee for the Investigation of a Sexual Assault Complaint or as a member of an expert panel in such investigations.

Due to the GSP faculty expertise, one of the ten topics for reforms in institutions of higher learning submitted through the Malaysian Academic Movement (GERAK) to the Minister of Education on 11 June 2018 included the issue of sexual harassment on campus. Point Eight of the document calls for the provision of a safe and inclusive working environment by effectively addressing the issue of sexual harassment on campus. The three main strategies outlined are the increase of awareness on the sexual harassment code and mechanisms, the introduction of gender sensitisation in the handling of cases, and the accountability of university management for failure to address sexual harassment incidents or for covering up any cases.

GSP academic staff members have also contributed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Shadow Report over the years. The latest contribution was in 2017 when staff members provided feedback on the chapters on sex role stereotyping and violence against women.

In the realm of the spiritual, the sustained leadership intervention since 2012 by a GSP faculty in a Buddhist organisation - Gotami Vihara - in terms of providing support to Theravadin Buddhist female monastics has contributed to the establishment of female monks in this Buddhist denomination in Malaysia.

Challenges and possibilities

The educational policy emphasis on the sciences has drastically led to a drop in the total intake of students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences which in turn has negatively affected the GSP. Departments became more inward looking to ensure sufficient teaching hours for its staff, resulting in

the winding-down of the GSP minor programme. This became inevitable due to the structure of the GSP as it is not a full-fledged department and thus does not offer a major. The lack of institutional support in terms of funding and human resources also contributed to the inability of the GSP to become a department and offer a major programme. As a public university, it is also more difficult to offer a major programme due to the need for a market survey (in which institutions of higher learning in the private sector are not subjected to).

The most recent initiative to experiment with offering a liberal arts programme in English in Universiti Malaya offers new hope for GSP to offer a programme of its own. However, as this liberal arts programme is offered parallel to the existing undergraduate programme in Malay, challenges may be faced as academic staff from other faculties may be overly burdened with the number of teaching hours. The GSP is also working on establishing a taught Master programme, in line with of the status of University Malaya as a research university.

Contact : Dr Lai Suat Yan (Coordinator)

Address : Gender Studies Programme
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
University of Malaya
50603 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

Tel : +603-7967 5509/5485

Fax : +603-7967 7369

Email : laisy@um.edu.my

Website : <https://fass.um.edu.my/departments/gender-studies/overview>

Publications

- Chakraborty, K., & Thambiah, S. (2018) Children and young people's emotions of migration across Asia. *Children's Geographies*, doi:10.1080/14733285.2018.1503231
- Chakraborty, K., Thambiah, S., & Aruguman, J. (2018). Estate youth and complicated migration in Malaysia's oil palm plantations: the emotions of leaving and connecting back. *Children's Geographies*, doi.org/10.1080/14733285.2018.1479514

- Idrus, R. (2016). The multicultural Hang Tuah: Cybermyth and popular history making in Malaysia. *Indonesia and the Malay world*, 44(129), 229-248.
- Idrus, R. (2016). [Review of the book *Humanizing the sacred: Sisters in Islam and the struggle for gender justice in Malaysia*]. *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 38(3), 546-548.
- Idrus, R. (2014). Transforming the Orang Asli Development Policy. In S. Basu & P. O. Lee (Eds.), *Transforming Malaysia: Ideas for the next decade* (pp. 391-395). Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.
- Idrus, R. (2013). Hang Tuah revisited. In E. Harms, J. Barker & J. Lindquist (Eds.), *Figures of Southeast Asian modernity* (pp. 181-182). Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- Idrus, R. (2013). Left behind: Orang Asli under the New Economic Policy. In T. Gomez & J. Saravanamuttu (Eds.), *The New Economic Policy in Malaysia: Affirmative action, ethnic inequality and social justice* (pp. 265-292). SIRD, NUS Press and ISEAS Publication.
- Idrus, R. (2011). The discourse of protection and the Orang Asli in Malaysia. *Kajian Malaysia*, 29(1), 53-74.
- Idrus, R. (2011). Malays and Orang Asli: Contesting indigeneity in Melayu. In M. Mohamad & S. M. Khairudin Aljunied (Eds.), *Politics, poetics and paradoxes of race* (pp. 101-123). Singapore: NUS Press.
- Idrus, R. (2011). [Review of the book *Submitting to God: Women and Islam in urban Malaysia*]. *American Anthropologist*, 113(4), 672-673.
- Idrus, R. (2010). Indigenous rights and citizenship in Malaysia. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, 33(1), 89-108.
- Izharuddin, A. (2018). The new Malay woman: The rise of the modern female subject and transnational encounters in postcolonial Malay literature. In G.V.S. Chin & K. Mohd Daud (Eds.), *The Southeast Asian woman writes back* (pp. 55-70). Singapore: Springer.
- Izharuddin, A. (2017). *Gender and Islam in Indonesian cinema*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Izharuddin, A. (2017). [Review of the article *Under bright lights, there goes the gayborhood, and sex and sexualities in contemporary Indonesia*]. *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 48(2), 319-324.
- Izharuddin, A. (2016). What is 'Islamic' about Islamic cinema? Retrieved from <http://cinemapoetica.com/what-is-islamic-about-islamic-films/>
- Izharuddin, A. (2015). Pain and pleasures of the look: The female gaze in Malaysian horror film. *Asian Cinema*, 26(2), 135-152.
- Izharuddin, A. (2013). Same-sex intimacies in Mairil and the queering of authenticity. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, 14(4), 538-550.
- Izharuddin, A. (2013). The use of English in contemporary Malaysian feminist activism. *Analyze: Journal of Gender and Feminist Studies*, 1(15), 1-20.
- Izharuddin, A. (2012). Melancholic masculinity and representations of 'traditional' homoeroticism in an Indonesian novel. In A. Worthington (Ed.), *Queer sexualities: staking out new territories in queer studies* (pp. 111-126). Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press.

- Lai, S. Y. (2017). The life and contributions of a pioneering social scientist and public intellectual in Malaya/Malaysia: Interview with Syed Husin Ali. *Southeast Asian Social Science Review*, 2(1), 115-138.
- Lai, S. Y. (2015). Buddhist women as agents of change: Case studies from Thailand and Indonesia. *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia*. Retrieved from <https://kyotoreview.org/yav/buddhist-women-as-agents-of-change/>
- Lai, S. Y. (2015). Buddhist women as spiritual leaders, ritual specialists, and religious innovators: Case studies from Thailand, Indonesia and Japan. In *Connecting "Infrastructure" and "Superstructure": Developments towards far-reaching impacts* (pp. 66-77). Bangkok: API Regional Coordinating Institution, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University.
- Lai, S. Y. (2011). Buddhism. In Stange, M. Z., & Oyster, C. K. (Eds.), *Encyclopaedia of women in today's world* (pp. 199-201). California: Sage Publications.
- Lai, S. Y. (2011). Rape crisis centres. In Stange, M. Z., & Oyster, C. K. (Eds.), *Encyclopaedia of women in today's world* (pp. 1210-1212). California: Sage Publications.
- Lai, S. Y., Singaravelloo, K., Chew, L. H. N., & Mohamed, S. (2014). *Final report: Baseline study on the working conditions of male and female lawyers in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor*. Kuala Lumpur: Association of Women Lawyers.
- Nain, Z., Lai, S. Y. & Syam Abdol Hazis, M. F. (2017). ASEAN economic integration and its challenges (Editorial). *Southeast Asian Social Science Review*, 2(1), 5-7.
- Osman, S. A., Lai, S. Y., & Kassim, S. R. (2017). Recent trends and themes in Malaysian children's fiction. In J. Stephens, John & A. Curry (Eds.), *The Routledge companion to international children's literature* (pp. 410-420). Oxfordshire: Routledge.
- Padzil, R. (2013). Tinjauan teori dan konsep: Perjuangan wanita dalam politik di Tanah Melayu, (Review of theories and concepts: Women's struggle in politics in Malaya). *Sarjana*, 19/20, 1-20.
- Tan B. H., & Thambiah, S. (2014). Women and inclusive growth in Malaysia. In K. Salih, Lee H. A., & M. Abdul Khalid (Eds.), *Malaysia Human Development Report: Redesigning an inclusive future* (pp. 187-209). Kuala Lumpur: United Nations Development Programme, Malaysia.
- Thambiah, S. (2016). Bhuket material culture and Kayan stratification in Sarawak Malaysia: Mats and baskets as instruments of social differentiation. *Indonesia and the Malay world*, 44(130), 1-20 doi.org/10.1080/13639811.2016.1189654
- Thambiah, S. (2016). Malaysian women in the workforce and poverty eradication: Economic growth with equity. In O. P. Mathur (Ed.), *State of the urban poor report 2015: Gender and urban poverty* (pp. 149-160). New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Thambiah, S. (2015). Mobile and changing livelihoods constituting gender among the hunter-gatherer Bhuket of Sarawak. In R. Lun, P. Doneys & B. P. Resurreccion (Eds.), *Gendered entanglements: Revisiting gender in rapidly changing Asia* (pp. 235-262). Denmark: Nordic Institute of Asian Studies Press, NIAS.
- Thambiah, S., Chakraborty, K., & Sarker, R. (2016). Negotiating male gatekeeper violence in team-based research on Bangladeshi migrant women in Malaysia. *Gender Place and Culture*, 23(8), 1150-1163, doi: 10.1080/0966369X.2015.1136814

- Thambiah, S., Chopil, T. Y., & Leong Y. L. R. (2018). Reclaiming the eclipsed female in the sacred: Semai women's religious knowledge and its connection to their rights to the land in Malaysia. *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, 174, 264-290 doi. org/10.1163/22134379-17402002
- Thambiah, S., Man, Z., & Idrus, R. (2016). Orang Asli women negotiating education and identity: Creating a vision of the self with socially available possibilities. In K. Endicott (Ed.), *Malaysia's original people: Past, present, and future of the Orang Asli* (pp. 449-468). Singapore: NUS Press.

Gender and Development Research Group

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Zumilah Zainalaludin

Introduction

The Gender and Development Research Unit (known as GADREC) was established in 1995 with the goal of becoming a Centre of Research Excellence (REC) providing consultancy services in gender and development. GADREC is housed under the Faculty of Human Ecology, and views gender from the perspective of human and family development, and the research efforts focus on gender elements in relation to enhancing and/or limiting women's and men's ability to balance the development of the individual, family and community.

History and background

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), formerly known as Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, has developed from a purely agricultural university into a multi-disciplinary university. The university has been aware of women's issues since its establishment, having conducted extensive outreach among rural agricultural families. Using an ecological perspective, GADREC acknowledges that men and women influence, and are influenced by, their environment. Culture plays a very important role in shaping and guiding the behaviour of individuals. The unit believes that one key cultural system is gender. Due to various issues around budget, human capital, and succession, GADREC currently moves as a group focusing on gender issues from the perspective of human development.

Objectives

1. To collaborate and enhance existing expertise in gender and development at UPM;
2. To become a gathering place for knowledge exchange and fellowship between local and international scholars;
3. To conduct policy and action research in gender and development;
4. To establish research, consultancy, and training networks with public and private organisations and NGOs in the area of gender and development; and
5. To disseminate research findings to the public through publications, seminars, and forums.

Structure

The GADREC group is housed under the Department of Resource Management and Consumer Studies in the Faculty of Human Ecology, while research efforts are conducted individually by an informal group of academicians who champion gender mainstreaming. The GADREC group is led by a Group Leader who mobilises faculty members whenever there is a need to do so.

Staff profile

Dr Zumilah Zainalaludin, Group Leader, Senior Lecturer, Department of Resource Management and Consumer Studies, Faculty of Human Ecology;

Dr Askiah Jamaluddin, Group Member, Senior Lecturer, Department of Resource Management and Consumer Studies, Faculty of Human Ecology;

Dr Norzalina Binti Zainudin, Senior Lecturer, Department of Resource Management and Consumer Studies, Faculty of Human Ecology;

Prof. Dr. Tengku Aizan Tengku Abdul Hamid, Director of MyAgeing;

Dr Wan Munira Wan Jaafar, Senior Lecturer, Department of Social and Development Science, Faculty of Human Ecology, Faculty of Human Ecology;

Dr Abdul Razak Bin Abdual Rahman, Senior Lecturer, Department of Social and Development Science, Faculty of Human Ecology; and

Associate Professor Dr Noritah Omar, English Department, Faculty of Modern Language and Communication.

Programmes

The Faculty of Human Ecology currently offers a Gender and Development programme at the Master and PhD level. Gender and development courses offered in other programmes include:

Women, Family and Development	(Compulsory)
Image of Women in Literature	(Compulsory)
Gender and Development	(Compulsory)
Gender and Human Resource Development	(Compulsory)
The Ecological Perspective of Human Development	(Elective)
Family Ecology and Parenting	(Elective)
Child Development	(Elective)
Family Economy and Consumers	(Elective)
Housing and Human Placement	(Elective)
Adolescent Development	(Elective)
Adult Development and Ageing	(Elective)
Laws and Society	(Elective)
Family Health	(Elective)
Ibubapa [Parents'] Consultation Counselling	(Elective)
Child and Adolescent Psychology	(Elective)
Family Counselling	(Elective)

Graduate programme

The Master of Science in the Gender and Development programme is designed for practitioners working in family and community development. The programme focuses on participatory development as a mechanism to empower women and men, and to achieve gender equality. Students conduct research with an emphasis on effective data collection and evaluation, gender analysis, and rapid rural appraisal. They also work with communities to

design and manage gender-sensitive development programmes. Through interactive learning, students will have the opportunity to relate theory and practice in policy formulation and programme planning.

Students are required to take six compulsory and three elective courses, present seminars, and complete a thesis. Courses include:

Research Methods and Design	(Compulsory)
Social Statistics	(Compulsory)
Gender Theories	(Elective)
Gender Issues and Human Development	(Elective)
Analysis of Work and Family Interaction	(Elective)

The Doctor of Philosophy in the Gender and Development programme emphasises an interdisciplinary approach to social changes in the Asian region, viewing gender in relation to economic, political, physical, societal, spiritual, and emotional factors. Students are required to complete 12 credits of course work, including courses that focus on quantitative and qualitative research methods, data interpretation, and theory. Courses offered include:

Gender Theories	(Compulsory)
Household Production	(Compulsory)
Work and Gender	(Elective)

Students are required to sit for a comprehensive exam upon completion of their course work and obtain approval of their research topic.

List of Research Topics by Students in Gender Studies

1. Indicators Explaining Cyber Love Addiction Levels among Male and Female Malaysian and Iranian Students in University Putra Malaysia
2. Gender Analysis of Fishing and Aquaculture Activities in a Coastal Community in Kuala Besut, Terengganu
3. Gender Differences in Relationships between Personality Types and Cyber Love Addiction among UPM Students
4. Impact of Girls' Education Empowerment Programmes on Economic Well-being in Katsina Rural Society, Nigeria

5. Relationship between Customer Perception and Quality of Bus Services among Male and Female UPM Student in the Seri Serdang area
6. Relationship between Smartphone Use and Academic Performance among Male and Female Students at Univeriti Putra Malaysia
7. Relationship between Knowledge and Sex on Halal Gold Investment among UPM Students
8. Relationship between Knowledge and Practices of Online Businesses among Female Entrepreneurs at Pasar Siti Khadijah, Kota Baharu, Kelantan
9. Relationship between Personality Traits and Job Performance among Male and Female Workers in the Production Department of Filtermation (Manufacturing) Sdn Bhd
10. Attitudes toward Outstanding Debts and Credit Card Usage among Male and Female Young Adults in Pusat Bandar Puchong
11. A Case Study of a Teenager and Women Rehabilitation Centre
12. Characteristics of Successful Chinese Entrepreneurs by Gender in Raub, Malaysia
13. Relationship between Knowledge and Attitudes on Hire Purchase Transaction among Women Employees at Universiti Putra Malaysia
14. Relationship between Economic Empowerment and Household Financial Wellbeing among Women in a Fisheries and Aquaculture Chinese community, Pontian, Johor
15. Relationship between Business Performance and Household Financial Wellbeing of Male and Female Night Market Entrepreneurs at Puncak Alam, Kuala Selangor, Selangor
16. Relationship between Value Chain Business Categories and Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs in a Smoked Food Product Enterprise, Kuala Pilah, Negeri Sembilan

Research

Since the 1970s, researchers in GADREC have focused on rural women and their role in agriculture. Following the theoretical shift away from women's studies to gender studies, GADREC's research has shifted to include a focus on individuals, family, and community. Research topics have included:

- Gender and agriculture
- Micro-enterprise
- Rural women's economic contribution
- Gender and financial behaviour
- Gender and the elderly
- Gender and consumption
- Studies of female headed households
- Gender and poverty
- Gender socialisation
- Gender, aquaculture, and fisheries

Networking

Members of GADREC have served as consultants for various gender related projects undertaken by international and national organisations such as the European Union, JICA, the United Nations Development Programme, the Malaysian Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, the United Nations Population Fund, the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations and the Pasir Gudang Local Authority. Members of GADREC also assisted with formulating the Family Policy for the Government of the Republic of Maldives, under the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Since 1995, GADREC members have given lectures, organised activities, and conducted gender training on women's roles in development. Some of the recent GADREC activities and trainings include:

1. Empowering vulnerable stakeholder groups in aquaculture. Direct deal with European Union (EU). Paper presented in WAS Conference 2015 in Jeju Korea on 26-30 May 2015.

2. Climate Change Impact on Malaysian Food Security. Paper presented in Sharing Research Findings National Seminar: Climate change impact on agro industry sector, at SIRIM Berhad on 4th November 2014.
3. Findings on Focus Group Discussion (FGD) among Farmers and Entrepreneurs on Economic Impact of Climate Change. Paper presented in Sharing Research Findings In-House Seminar: Climate change impact on agro industry sector, at SIRIM Berhad on 10th October 2014. Organised by SIRIM Berhad.
4. Old age economic security among Amanah Ikhtiar members. Module presented in AIM Sahabat gathering at Kota Star, Kedah on 13th March 2014, Padang Terap, Kedah on 15th March 2014, Kuala Berang Terengganu on 22nd March 2014, Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu on 23rd March 2014, Kota Bharu, Kelantan on 17th April 2014, Pasir Mas, Kelantan on 19th April 2014, and Sungai Besar Selangor on 11th September 2014, for retirement preparation programme.
5. Financial security at old age: Case study among Sahabat in Amanah. Paper presented at the Sharing Research Findings Seminar: Appreciating Population Ageing at UPM Serdang on 30th October 2013. Jointly organised by UPM (Social Gerontology Laboratory, Institute of Gerontology), Biro Tata Negara, and MACFEA.

Policy interventions and impact

GADREC members contribute actively to policy formulation and review through work with different ministries. For example, the Ministry of Finance has awarded a research project to GADREC entitled 'Micro Study on Poverty in Selected Districts: Policy Formulation and Programme Intervention', the results of which will be used as input in budget formulation. Members of the unit have been invited to serve on the technical committee in the formulation of the proposed National Family Policy. Members of GADREC are also collaborating with the Institute of Gerontology at UPM to review the implementation of the Elderly Policy in Malaysia through research, analysing gender and aspects of ageing.

Past contributions to policy have included preparation of Malaysia's first Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against

Women (CEDAW) report on rural women, and the programme 'Ibu Tunggal Waja' ('Resilient Single Mothers') which was created in 1999 based on findings of GADREC members' research.

Challenges

Despite increased concern and awareness regarding gender issues, these issues are often neglected, even among researchers. Though the number of international students applying for graduate programmes in gender studies continues to increase, GADREC has noticed that local academic interest has not increased. Efforts need to be intensified to gender-sensitise the academic community, especially researchers, in order to create more interest in gender and development work at the academic level.

Contact : Dr Zumilah Zainalaludin (GADREC Group Head)

Address : Gender and Development Research Group,
Faculty of Human Ecology,
Universiti Putra Malaysia,
43400 UPM Serdang,
Selangor Darul Ehsan,
Malaysia.

Tel : +60 3 89467099 / 89467114

Fax : +60 3 89436157

E-mail : zumilah@putra.upm.edu.my

Website : www.eco1.upm.edu.my

Publications

- Ibrahim A., Zumilah Z., & Laily P. (2013). A distinct gap in gendered impact of girls' education empowerment programme on family wellbeing in rural Katsina, Northern Nigeria. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention*, 2(4), 39-44.
- Jariah M., Tengku Aizan A. H., Zumilah Z., & Mohamed Shariff M. D. (2013). Poverty and gender in fishing communities in Malaysia. *African-Asian Journal of Rural Development* (formerly *Afro-Asian Journal of Rural Development*), 46(1), 29-36.
- Jariah M., Sharifah Azizah H., Zumilah Z., Mohamad Fazli S., Siti Farra Zillah A., & Norisma Aiza I. (2012). Measuring women empowerment: Case study of Amanah Ikhtiar Malaysia. Full paper in *International Conference on Gender Empowerment (ICGEM) 2012 Proceedings*, 93. Jakarta, Indonesia: Yayasan Gender Harmony.

- Mohamed Shariff M. D., Tengku Aizan A. H., Ismail A. L., Zumilah Z., & Jariah M. (2012). Gender workshop in aquaculture sector. Poster in *International Conference on Gender Empowerment (ICGEM) 2012 Proceedings*. Jakarta, Indonesia: Yayasan Gender Harmony.
- Nayereh, G., & Zumilah, Z. (2018). Gender analysis on the relationship between perceived economic wellbeing of the family and cyber love addiction in one public Malaysian university. *Journal of Education and Social Sciences*, 9, 65-75.
- Sousan, N., & Zumilah, Z. (2017). Relationship between gender and personality type among pure and applied science and social science students in one public university in Malaysia. *Journal of Education and Social Sciences*, 8(1), 284-292.
- Sousan, N., & Zumilah, Z. (2017). Gender and personality type among pure and applied science and social science students in a public university in Malaysia. *Malaysian Journal of Consumer*, 29, 103-116.
- Zumilah Z. (2014). Challenge of having a son among rural women to scale up the micro enterprise. In Erna Surjadi, & Meutia Hatta Swasono (Eds.), *Gender empowerment for social life and harmonious living* (pp. 543-552). Jakarta: Sriya Harapan Jagra.
- Zumilah Z. (2012). Differences in sustainable consumption practices among male and female primary school students in Putrajaya Malaysia. *Proceeding MACFEA 16th National Seminar: Sustainable and Quality of Life, 10-11 July 2012, Putrajaya*. Jointly organised by UPM, MACFEA and KPDNKK.
- Zumilah, Z., Askiah, J., Suryati, A. S., & Norehan, S. (2017). Gender and vulnerable types among vulnerable members in Malaysia fisheries and aquaculture community. *International Journal for Studies on Children, Women, Elderly and Disabled*, 2, 32-37.
- Zumilah, Z., Norehan, S., & Faten, B. K. (2016). Gender gap in academic performance of UPM students. *Malaysian Journal of Consumer*, 27, 73-84.

Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Jamaluddin Aziz

Introduction

The Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre (TFHWLC) at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) was established on 1st of August 2011. It is a relatively newly established Centre of Excellence in UKM, having been restructured and upgraded from the previous Centre for Gender Research (CGR), Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. The Centre fosters research, development, practice, and dissemination of knowledge on women and leadership. Strategic programmes and activities organised by the Centre are needs based, culture sensitive, and culture enriching. All programmes and activities are carried out through smart partnerships with the community, civil society, as well as with the public and private sectors.

History and background

With its humble beginning as a Centre for Gender Research (CGR), Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, UKM, since 2003, the TFHWLC has progressed to become a national centre, focusing on women's leadership. The Centre receives an endowment from the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development. On 20th of April 2013, the senate of UKM agreed to rename the Women's Leadership Centre as Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre in recognition of Tun Fatimah Hashim's status as the first woman Minister in Malaysia. As a national centre for women's leadership, the Centre has been a strategic partner to the Ministry in its mandate to achieve the minimum 30% women at the decision-making level in both

the public and private sectors. TFHWLC focuses on research, training, and consultation in the areas of gender equality, women's leadership, entrepreneurship, and gender and development.

Vision

To be a Women's Leadership Academy at the national and ASEAN level that empowers women towards eminence in leadership, organisation, community, and family, as well as promoting women as catalysts for national development.

Mission

To empower women through leadership, education, training, research, and policy formulation input by fulfilling the demands and challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Services

TFHWLC provides a variety of services in relation to our ultimate role in developing research projects to address and foster greater understanding in women's leadership and empowerment issues for nation building by:

- i. Organising workshops, lectures, talks, forums, seminars, and conferences to disseminate research findings;
- ii. Publishing research findings in the form of journal articles, books, monographs, training manuals, and papers in proceedings to disseminate knowledge and information on women's leadership and empowerment issues;
- iii. Organising training and coaching sessions to develop, enhance, and nurture leadership qualities of women to enable them to be agents of change for their personal and professional enhancement;
- iv. Developing a database of resources in women's leadership and empowerment; and
- v. Establishing smart partnerships, linkages, and networks with national and international organisation.

Staff profile

Management team

Tan Sri Datuk (Dr.) Rafiah Salim

Present Chair Women's Leadership (2016-2018)

Prof Datin Dr. Norizan Abdul Razak

Director

Prof Dr. Madya Dr. Jamaluddin Aziz

Deputy Director

Puan Nurul Idiani Azmi Bazir

Administrator

Encik Mohammad Hidir Mohamed

Research Officer

Associate fellows

Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Haji Ramli

Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS)

Prof. Datuk Dr. Rokiah Omar

Director of University Community Transformation Centre (UCTUC)

Prof. Madya Dr. Fariza Md. Sham

Deputy Executive Director, Strategic Centre

Prof. Dato' Noor Aziah Mohd Awal

Faculty of Law

Prof. Madya Dr. Bahiyah Dato' Haji Abd. Hamid

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr. Rozida Mohd Khalid

Faculty of Science and Technology

Dr. Rohani Abdul Rahim

Faculty of Law

Cik Rozita Ibrahim

Coordinator, Pusat Citra

Programmes

Teaching

TFHWLC is not a teaching entity. However, here are courses offered on gender, women and leadership in UKM:

No.	Code	Courses	Faculty/ Centre
1.	UUK 6205	Gender and Law	Faculty of Law
2.	PPPM 3133	Management and Women's Leadership	Faculty of Islamic Studies
3.	LMCB 1422	Leadership in the Army	Pusat Citra
4.	LMCR 3414	Transformational Leadership	Pusat Citra
5.	LMCR 2414	Interpersonal Leadership and Skills	Pusat Citra
6.	LMCR 2192	Gender towards a High-Income Country	Pusat Citra
7.	SKAA3233 SKAD3493	Gender and Development	Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Research

Beginning from 2018, with the new management team, the Women's Leadership Chair Research Grant is offered, on an annual basis, to all fellows and researchers from UKM in the areas related to women's leadership, empowerment, and gender equality. These areas are often analysed and/or discussed in relation to the following arenas, which are not necessarily exhaustive:

- Cultural constructs of the body (e.g., sexuality, gender ideology, gender categories, customs, practices, gender images, attitudes, perceptions, and gender related linguistic behaviour)
- Democracy, politics, and law (e.g., social policies, role of mass media, civil society, women's movements, participation of women in religious organisations, feminism, leadership, and legal reforms)
- Economy, labour, and work (e.g., gender and work, gender gap in the corporate sector, women's economic associations and networks, entrepreneurship, men and women in formal and informal sectors, gender and multi-national companies, and labour migration)

- Family, well-being, and household strategies (e.g., intergenerational, intergender and intragender dynamics, caring for the young and the aged, gender and health, domestic conflicts and divorce)
- Education and human development (e.g., gender socialisation in institutions of learning, youth programmes, classroom management, gender and pedagogy, gender and curriculum development)
- Science, technology, and human development (e.g., gender and medical afflictions, gender and health, gender, information and communication technology)
- Language, media, and communication (e.g., gender and language, gender and the media, gender and communication)

Networking

Thanks to the efforts of its affiliates, TFHWLC has linkages with nearly 40 NGOs, government institutions, academic institutions, and civil society associations. These include:

PUBLIC SECTOR	
1.	Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development
2.	The Advisory Office For Women Entrepreneurs and Professionals, Prime Minister Department
3.	Ministry of Welfare, Community Wellbeing, Women, Family and Childhood Development, Sarawak
4.	Ministry of Community Development and Consumer Affairs, Sabah
5.	Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia
INTERNATIONAL	
6.	Gender Research Centre, State Islamic University of Kudus, Indonesia
7.	ASEAN Economic Integration Forum
PRIVATE	
8.	Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI)
9.	POS Malaysia Ltd.
10.	Companies Commission of Malaysia
11.	TEKUN Malaysia

NGOs	
12.	National Council of Women's Organisations (NCWO)
13.	e-Entrepreneurs Women Association Malaysia (eWA)

Challenges

The challenges TFHWLC face reflect issues that impact gender studies as a discipline. The lack of gender sensitisation in society at large has implications for the affiliates of TFHWLC, who find that they have to negotiate creatively to make space for gender studies, whether dealing with authorities or with other departments in the university. It can be difficult to integrate gender studies with other disciplines at UKM, such as management, education, or psychology, due to a lack of champions outside the social science field.

Nonetheless, TFHWLC has endeavoured to raise gender consciousness amongst students and academicians and to build up expertise and knowledge in gender related issues that will contribute not only to development and gender equality in Malaysia, but also internationally. Despite its nascency, through TFHWLC's research efforts and the organisation of related activities, it has shown that gender issues cannot be ignored but must be researched, discussed, debated, and the findings made relevant to serve the purpose of improving the quality of life for all.

Contact : Associate Professor Dr Jamaluddin Aziz
Deputy Director

Address : Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
43600 Bangi, Selangor,

Tel : +60 3 8921 4069/4795 / 0197159844

Fax : +60 3 8921 4754

Email : jaywalk@ukm.edu.my / tppkw@ukm.edu.my

Website : <http://www.ukm.my/pkwtfh/>

Publication

Azlina Asaari & Jamaluddin Aziz. (2017). Konflik semiotik dan simbolik dalam hubungan ibu dan anak perempuan dalam filem seram kontemporari Melayu: Kajian kes filem Senjakala. *GEMA Online® Journal of Language Studies*, 17(4), 274-292.

- Azlina Asaari & Jamaluddin Aziz & Sabariah Mohamed Salleh. (2017), Susuk, women and abjection in contemporary Malay horror films. *Jurnal Komunikasi - Malaysian Journal of Communication*, 33(3), 70-88.
- Azlina Asaari & Jamaluddin Aziz. (2013). Mencabar ideologi maskulin: Wanita dan saka dalam filem seram di Malaysia. *Jurnal Komunikasi, Malaysian Journal of Communication*, 29(1), 113-126.
- Fuzirah Hashim, Norizan Abdul Razak & Zaini Amir. (2011). Empowering rural women entrepreneurs with ICT skills: an impact study on Inita project in Malaysia. *Procedia Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 15, 3779-3783.
- Jamaluddin Aziz. (2014). Investigating the missing "I" in Zubaidah My Story: A Dialogic consideration. *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*, 17(4), 99-119.
- Jamaluddin Aziz. (2012). *Transgressing women. Space and the body in contemporary noir thrillers*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing: UK
- Jamaluddin Bin Aziz & Azlina Bt Asaari. (2014). Saka and the abject: Masculine dominance, the mother and contemporary Malay horror films. *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*, 20(1), 71-92.
- Jamaluddin Aziz & Norizan Abdul Razak. (2010). Developing digital literacy among women entrepreneurs. *Proceedings of the International Conference on ARTS and CULTURE: Recent Researches in Mechanics, Transportation and Culture*.
- Louise Morley. (2013). *Knowing women: Gender, power and research*. UKM Press: Bangi.
- Louise Morley. (2013). *Lost leaders: Women in the global academy*. UKM Press: Bangi.
- Mohd Helmi Yusoh & Jamaluddin Aziz. (2018). The empowerment of women characters in Islamic-based films: A case study of Ketika Cinta Bertasbih. *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies*, 18(1), 140-160.
- Nik Safiah Karim & Rokiah Talib. (2016). *Pergerakan wanita dalam memperjuangkan hak*. UKM Press: Bangi.
- Nor Fariza Mohd Nor & Jamaluddin Aziz. (2016). Analisis wacana dalam proses membuat keputusan dalam mesyuarat: Prinsip kesantunan dan analisis wacana kritis. In Mohammad Fadzeli Jaafar & Intan Safunaz Zainudin (Eds.), *Linguistik terapan dalam penyelidikan bahasa* (pp. 40-70). UKM Press: Bangi.
- Nor Fariza Mohd Nor & Jamaluddin Aziz. (2011). Youth empowerment and the internet media. In Hazita Azman, Zarina Othman & Bahiyah Abdul Hamid (Eds.), *Malaysia youth in the global world: Issues and challenges* (pp. 132-149). UKM Press: Bangi.
- Norizan Abdul Razak. (2018). *Buku pembangunan netpreneur wanita*. UKM Press: Bangi
- Norizan Abdul Razak. (2014). *Kejayaan e-usahawan wanita*. UKM Press: Bangi
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Fatin Nadiah Ahmad Pisal. (2016). Development of Muslim women social entrepreneurs: Towards digital economy. *International Journal of Business, Economics and Law*, 9(5), 52-57.
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Nurain Jantan Anua Jah. (2017). The e-commerce training for women entrepreneurs in facing fourth industrial revolution. *International Journal of Business, Economics and Law*, 5(14), 42-47.
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Nurain Jantan Anua Jah. (2016). Online writing strategies in social media for women entrepreneurs. *E-Bangi: Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 11(2), 497-515.

- Norizan Abdul Razak & Faridah Ibrahim. (2008). Empowering women via e-learning: policy, implications and issues. In Norizan Abdul Razak & Abd Ghafur Ahmad (Eds.) *Policy and Implementation of E-Learning at Institutions of Higher Learning* (pp. 59-71). UKM Press: Bangi.
- Norizan Abdul Razak, Jamaluddin Aziz, Fuzirah Hashim & Shariya Haniz Zulkifli. (2010). The acculturation of ICT among rural women e-entrepreneurship: issues and challenges. *9th WSEAS International Conference on Education and Educational Technology (EDU '10), Japan*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak, Noraida Haji Ali, Nora'aini Ali & Noor Maizura Mohamad Noor. (2016). Entrepreneurship policy and practice. In *Cultivating e-commerce skill and entrepreneurship among single mothers in Terengganu* (pp. 140-147). UKM Press: Bangi.
- Norizan Abdul Razak, Noraida Haji Ali, Nora' Aini Ali & Noor Maizura Mohamad Noor. (2010). Development of e-commerce skill among Terengganu single mother. *Proceedings of International Conference ARTS and CULTURE: Recent Researchers in Mechanics, Transportation and Culture*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak, Noraida Ali, Nora' Aini Ali & Noor Maizura Mohamad Noor. (2010). E-Commerce readiness for SME's in rural communities: design of training framework for non-computer literate single mother. *Proceedings of WSEAS 2010, Athens*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak, Nor Amirah Hamzah & Murad Saeed. (2012). The role of English language for online business among Malaysia women e-entrepreneurs. *Procedia Social and Behavioral Sciences Congress on Teaching and Learning*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak, Nor Fariza Mohd Nor & Zaharah Hassan. (2013). Online lifelong learning for women entrepreneurs: innovation in practice. *Prosiding Simposium Kebudayaan Indonesia-Malaysia, Universitas Padjadjaran*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Nurain Jantan Anua Jah. (2017). Effective e-commerce training for women entrepreneurs in Malaysia. *Proceeding 5th Kuala Lumpur International Islamic Studies and Civilisations (KLISC5)*, 170-177.
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Nurain Jantan Anua Jah. (2016). Social Media Activities among Women Entrepreneurs. *1st International Conference on Women and Children Legal and Social Issues, Subang Jaya, Malaysia*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Siti Nurul Asma Amran. (2016). Development of Women Netpreneurs for Digital Economy. *1st International Conference on Women and Children Legal and Social Issues, Subang Jaya, Malaysia*.
- Norizan Abdul Razak & Zaharah Hassan. (2014). Gaya kepimpinan wanita daripada lensa Malaysia. In Madeline Berma, Bahiyah Abdul Hamid & Shamsubaridah Ramlee (Eds.), *Kepimpinan melalui teladan: Dato' Hafshah Hashim* (pp. 115-121). UKM Press: Bangi.

Gender Studies Major

Monash University Malaysia

Sharon A. Bong and Joseph N. Goh

The establishment of the Gender Studies Major was the realisation of a 10-year aspiration. This is our story.

History and background

Its beginnings were humble ones, with Gender Studies (hereafter GS) units (or subjects) imported from Monash University Australia (MUA) in 2006. These units served as electives to the Bachelor of Communication which was the only undergraduate degree then; WMN2240/3240 Introduction to Contemporary Feminist Theories and WMN2150/3150 Consuming Otherness: Global and Global Culture, first offered in semester 1, 2006 and semester 2, 2017, respectively.

Enthused by students' reception that translated into increased enrolment numbers in these units, the Minor in Gender Studies was established in 2010. The structure of the Minor comprised of any first-year Arts unit and three GS-specific units which included: ATS1311 Sex, Gender, Knowledge; ATS2906/3906 Gender, Sexualities and Religions in Southeast Asia; and ATS2560/3560 Theorising Sexed Bodies: Contemporary Feminist Theory. The teaching staff comprised of one full-time staff (i.e. Dr Sharon A. Bong) with an additional part-time staff (e.g. Ms Vizla Kumaresan). The double-coded unit ATS2906/ATS3906 was the first home-grown GS unit of the newly minted School of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) which saw Monash University Malaysia (MUM) accorded greater autonomy from MUA.

With the support of a very affirming interim Head of School, Professor David James Young, the Major in Gender Studies was established in 2016, an aspiration realised a decade after the offering of the first GS electives. The structure of the Major and Minor consist of eight and four units, respectively,

are detailed below. The teaching staff now comprises an additional full-time staff, i.e. Dr Joseph N. Goh.

Objectives of the programme

The Gender Studies Major and Minor are offered under the second undergraduate degree programme, the Bachelor of Arts and Social Sciences (BASS).

A unique aspect of Gender Studies at SASS is its emphasis on Gender and Sexuality Studies with a dedicated focus on scholarship emerging from, and on, Asia. GS is an exciting interdisciplinary field of inquiry that is informed by the belief that all social processes and institutions are 'gendered'. Studies in this area bring innovative theory and research techniques to understand the ways in which our bodies are sexed, gendered and sexually oriented, how these relate to contemporary and global debates on sexual and reproductive health and rights and the plurality of sexualities. Students are introduced to a variety of critical models of analysis - feminist and queer - that will assist them in developing a range of methodological skills, including problem-solving skills. Students will also develop transferable professional skills through the Workplace Learning Internship unit and an ethos of gender equality and social justice that is transferable to their future careers.

In addition to achieving the broad outcomes of their course, students successfully completing this Major will be able to:

- a) analyse and evaluate the key concepts, theoretical perspectives and scholarly debates in the study of genders and sexualities, and how these intersect in multidisciplinary fields of study;
- b) apply the key theoretical concepts of gender and sexuality studies to a range of contemporary global issues with a focus on Asia; and
- c) recognise and respect diversity in professional contexts by integrating discipline-specific knowledge and practical work experiences, e.g. interning with non-governmental organisations, industry and community-based organisations or civil society movements.

Structure

In terms of the range of units offered under BASS:

Minor requirements

- a. Two level 1 gateway units (12 points):
 - AMU1310 Introduction to Gender Studies
 - AMU1309 Introduction to Sexuality Studies
- b. Two remaining units (12 points), with at least one level 2 unit, from those listed under the Major

Major requirements

Students complete:

- a. Two level 1 gateway units (12 points):
 - AMU1310 Introduction to Gender Studies
 - AMU1309 Introduction to Sexuality Studies
- b. Two level 2 cornerstone units (12 points):
 - AMU2453 Research Methods in the Social Sciences
 - AMU2906 Genders, Sexualities and Religions in Southeast Asia
- c. Two level 3 capstone units (12 points):
 - AMU3560 Contemporary Feminisms in Asia and one of the following units:
 - AMU3575 Task Force: Responding to Global Challenges
 - AMU3744 Workplace Learning Internship
- d. Two of following units (12 points), ensuring that students complete at least three level 3 units within the Major:
 - AMU2907 Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Global Contexts
 - AMU2908 Critical Methodologies for Action Research
 - AMU3127 Stardom: Celebrity, Society and Power

Staff profile

The Gender Studies Major is co-anchored by Associate Professor Dr Sharon A. Bong (current Major Coordinator) and Dr Joseph N. Goh. It is well supported by full-time staff such as Drs Jonathan Driskell and Joel Moore who teach AMU3127 and AMU3575, respectively. Ms Vizla Kumaresan, as a part-time (sessional) staff, facilitates AMU1309 during the third (October) intake. AMU3744, which runs during the summer semester (November to February), has been facilitated by some of the abovementioned staff.

Student profile

Gender Studies as an area of study has much traction among students both local and international, not only from SASS but also from other schools and students on exchange as well as those from inter-campus exchange. Student enrolment figures for its gateway (first-year) units exceed 100, which places it on par with older Majors, e.g. Communication.

Academic staff at SASS have successfully supervised students at Honours (a fourth and separate year of study), Master (by research and coursework) and PhD levels on dissertations and theses with a gender focus since the early 2000s, well before the Gender Studies Major was established. A sample of research topics for the past decade at an Honours level exemplifies the range and scope of interest and expertise in Gender Studies that include:

- i. Woman's Leadership in the Catholic Church: Perspectives from Diverse Stakeholders in Malaysia, 2015
- ii. Rocking in Dress: Negotiating Gender and Musicianship in the Kuala Lumpur Independent Music Scene, 2015
- iii. Feminine Lesbians: Invisibility and Experiences of Femmes in Singapore and Malaysia, 2015
- iv. When Little Girls become Monsters: Contributing Factors towards the Female Child's Monstrosity in Hollywood Horror Cinema, 2013
- v. "I am Malaysian first": A Case Study of Ethnicisation of Private University Students in Malaysia, 2013

- vi. Love Teams, Stardom and Studios in Contemporary Mainstream Philippine Cinema, 2013
- vii. Adapting Twilight (2008): Pastiche, Self-Reflexivity and Intertextuality, 2012
- viii. Suhana, Suetha, or Suet Mun: Identity Construction of Malaysian Female Bloggers, 2012
- ix. Girls Bring the Boys Out!: A Case Study on "Soshified" Male Fandom in Malaysia, 2012
- x. Viewing Boys' Love in Malaysia: An Exploration on Sexuality, Fantasy and Desire, 2011
- xi. Rise of the Serpent Queen, Indonesian Cinema and the Contention between Islam and Pancasila, 2011
- xii. Hurts So Good; Male Masochism and Matriduxy in Christina Stead's *The Man Who Loved Children*, 2011
- xiii. Women as Hardcore Gamers: Real/ Virtual Space and Identity Formation, 2011
- xiv. Malleable Bodies: The Militarisation of Asian Women in Non-Fiction, 2011
- xv. The Veiled Tension: Negotiating the Hijab in Singapore, 2011
- xvi. Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Representations of Power and Identity, 2010
- xvii. The Plight of Indonesian Domestic Workers in Malaysia: The Gender and National Factors, 2010
- xviii. Fashioning Malaysian Islam: Malay-Muslim Women and the Tudung, 2010
- xix. Intergenerational Voices: Identity, Traditions and Modernity, 2010
- xx. Feasting on 'The Other': The Commodification of Difference and the Performance of Authenticity in Food Adventuring Television Programs, 2010

Programmes

Conferences

The inaugural undergraduate conference ‘Genderworks’, themed ‘Dialogue and action across our differences’, was organised on 8 July 2018 as a part to celebrate the establishment of the Gender Studies Major at SASS, Monash University Malaysia. It was organised in collaboration with the Gender Equality Initiative that was set up by the Association of Women Lawyers and the Bar Council, Malaysia, which comprised INTI International University, University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus, Brickfields Asia College, Advance Tertiary College and Monash University Malaysia. Papers submitted probed how gender manifests itself in our everyday lives, which includes, but is not limited to, the law and human rights, culture and religion, as well as in texts such as films.

The best five papers were published in *Praxis*, an e-chronicle of the Malaysian Bar Council. These comprise: Chelsea Teoh’s “Alone but Never Lonely: Simulated Relationship and the Cyborg-Otaku”, Krisha Raveendran Vishinpir’s “Rising Trend of Kkotminam Masculinities in South Korean Contemporary Culture”, Kan Wai Min’s “Interrogating the United Kingdom’s Implementation Gap in the Provision of Asylum on the Basis of Sexual Orientation”, Agnes Hanying Ong’s “Commentaries on Singapore’s Christian and Cultural Attitudes Towards a Gay Eschatology” and Saw Ray Mond’s “An Analysis of Malaysian Women under Capitalism”.

It is hoped that this undergraduate conference would be a biennial event that would spur networking and collaboration between SASS and other universities, both locally and globally.

In November, 2018, we will be organising our first International Conference on Gender and Sexuality in Asia (CoGen 2018), themed ‘Gender and Sexuality Justice in Asia: Conflicts and Resolutions’.

Gender-sensitisation

Dr Joseph N. Goh, Ms Vizla Kumaresan and Associate Professor Dr Sharon A. Bong initiated the design and implementation of a combination CEED (Continuing Education Excellence Development) training module entitled ‘Understanding Gender Inclusivity in Malaysia’ for the University staff of Monash Malaysia. This module aimed at equipping University staff with

knowledge of gender and sexuality issues, and assisting them towards arriving at a common ground and goal of ensuring dignity, safety and security for gender-variant and sexually-diverse staff and students on campus. The module included a workshop with input on the basics of gender and sexuality, sexual harassment, issues of gender and sexual diversity, finding common ground to preserve the dignity and safety of gender-variant and sexually-diverse individuals, a role play, and group discussions based on actual Malaysian-based case studies on gender and sexual discrimination, injustice and violence.

The team received the 2018 Vice-Chancellor's Diversity and Inclusion Award in recognition of staff who have made an outstanding contribution to supporting diversity and fostering inclusion at Monash.

Achievements and challenges

The Gender Studies Major at the Malaysia campus is ensconced within the framework of gender-affirming policies and practices of Monash University and consequently has thrived in terms of staff-driven education (teaching), research content, and direction.

The home-grown Major that delves into both Gender Studies and Sexuality Studies has over the years created a safe space for honest and meaningful discussions and debates that respect the diversity of students and LGBTIQ persons in society. This is an outcome that we are proud of sustaining, given the institutional marginalisation of LGBTIQ persons in Malaysia and home countries where students come from.

Our learning outcomes seek to change mind-sets and potentially inform policy on gender awareness and sensitisation, and this is manifested in the affirming evaluative reports that we receive of our student interns from workplace supervisors.

As a private and international campus situated within Malaysia, the challenge that remains is to sustain this passion in Gender Studies in large part by ensuring the high standards of education and research but also aligning programme aims and outcomes with graduate employability.

Contact : Associate Professor Dr Sharon A. Bong
 Address : School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University,
 Malaysia, Jalan Lagoon Selatan, 47500 Bandar Sunway
 Tel : +603 5514 6126
 Fax : +603 5514 6365
 Email : Sharon.bong@monash.edu
 Website : <https://www.monash.edu.my/sass/about/staff/academic/associate-professor-sharon-a-bong>

Contact : Dr Joseph N. Goh
 Address : School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University,
 Malaysia, Jalan Lagoon Selatan, 47500 Bandar Sunway
 Tel : +603 5515 9650
 Fax : +603 5514 6365
 Email : joseph.goh@monash.edu
 Website : <https://www.monash.edu.my/sass/about/staff/academic/dr-joseph-n-goh>

Publications

Sharon A. Bong

- Bong, S. A. (2018) The feminist praxis of Talitha Kum Southeast Asia: Combatting trafficking in persons to realising human dignity. In Virginia Saldanha & Metti Amirtham, SCC (Eds.) *The 21st century woman still claiming her space: Asian feminist theological perspectives* (pp. 87-107). New Delhi: Media House.
- Bong, S. A. (2018) Transgender. In Lisa Isherwood & Dirk von der Horst (Eds.) *Contemporary theological approaches to sexuality* (pp. 40-52). London and New York: Routledge.
- Bong, S. A. (2017) Not only for the sake of man: Asian feminist theological response to Laudato Si. In Grace Ji-Sun Kim & Hilda P. Koster (Eds.) *Planetary solidarity: Global women's voices on Christian doctrine and climate justice* (pp. 81-96). Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- Bong, S. A. (2017) The roots of human dignity in a Southeast Asian context. In Klaus Krämer & Klaus Vellguth (Eds.) *Human dignity: Discourses on universality and inalienability* (pp. 71-78). Quezon City: Claretian Communications Foundation, Inc.
- Bong, S. A. (2016). A God by any other name. In Lúcas Chan Yiu Sing, James F. Keenan & Shaji George Kochuthara (Eds.), *Doing Asian theological ethics in a cross-cultural and an interreligious context* (pp. 181-193). Bangalore: Dharmaram Publications.

- Bong, S. A. (2016). Women's and feminist activism in Southeast Asia. *The Wiley Blackwell encyclopedia of gender and sexuality studies* (pp. 1–5). Retrieved from: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781118663219.wbegss593/pdf> (institutions/organisations). DOI: 10.1002/9781118663219.wbegss593.
- Bong, S. A. (2016). Women's ways of knowing. *The Wiley Blackwell encyclopedia of gender and sexuality studies* (pp. 1–3). Retrieved from: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781118663219.wbegss597/pdf> (philosophy/ethics). DOI: 10.1002/9781118663219.wbegss597.
- Bong, S. A. (2015). Going beyond the universal-versus-relativist rights discourse and practice: The case of Malaysia. In Sanja Bahun-Radunović & V. G. Julie Rajan (Eds.), *Violence and gender in the globalised world: The intimate and the extimate* (pp. 27-44) (2nd ed.). Aldershot, Hampshire: Ashgate.
- Bong, S. A. (2015). Negotiating tensions in the discourses of gender, sexuality and religion. In James Chin & Joern Dosch (Eds.), *Malaysia post-Mahathir: A decade of change?* (pp. 169-194). Singapore: Marshall Cavendish.
- Bong, S. A. (Ed.). (2014). *Trauma, memory and transformation in Southeast Asia*. Petaling Jaya, Malaysia: Strategic Information and Research Development Centre (SIRD).
- Bong, S. A. (2014). Gender, sexuality and Christian feminist movements in Asia. In Felix Wilfred (Ed.), *The Oxford handbook of Christianity in Asia* (pp. 182-194). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bong, S. A. (2014). In the name of Allah: Containment of trauma and memory in Malaysia. In Sharon A. Bong (Ed.), *Trauma, memory and transformation: Southeast Asian experiences* (pp. 145-167). Petaling Jaya, Malaysia: Strategic information and Research Development Centre (SIRD).
- Bong, S. A. (2014). Sacralising time and space through an epistemology of peace: A feminist reading of DiscipleSFX of Malaysia. In Agnes M Brazal & Kochurani Abraham (Eds.), *Feminist cyberethics in Asia: Religious discourses on human connectivity* (pp. 119-139). New York: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Bong, S. A. (2014). The ecclesia of women in Asia: Liberating theology. In Linda F. Hogan & A. E. Orobator (Eds.), *Feminist Catholic theological ethics: Conversations in the World Church* (pp. 64-71). Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books.
- Bong, S. A. (2012). Theologies of, for, and by Asians: Reformulating dialogue. In David Joy & Joseph F. Duggan (Eds.), *Decolonizing the Body of Christ: Theology and theory after empire?* (pp. 79-106). New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Bong, S. A. (2012). Decolonizing Malaysian theologies. *Asian Christian Review*, 6(1), 67-89.
- Bong, S. A. (2011). The narratives of GLBTQ persons: Towards an epistemology of the body. In Judette Gallares & Astrid Lobo-Gajiwala (Eds.), *Feminist theology of liberation Asian perspectives: Practicing peace* (pp. 81-100). Quezon City, Philippines: Claretian Publication.
- Bong, S. A. (2011). Negotiating resistance/resilience through the nexus of spirituality -sexuality of same-sex partnerships in Malaysia and Singapore. *Marriage and Family, Review*, 47(8), 648-665. doi: 10.1080/01494929.2011.619305
- Bong, S. A. (2011). Beyond queer: An epistemology of bi choice. *Journal of Bisexuality*, 11(1), 39-63. doi: 10.1080/15299716.2011.545304

Bong, S. A. (2010). The suffering Christ and the Asian body. In Kwok Pui-Lan (Ed.), *Hope abundant: Third World and indigenous women's theology* (pp. 186-193). Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books (reprinted).

Joseph N. Goh

- Córdova Quero, H., & Goh, J. N. (2018). More than a divine ménage à trois: Friendship, polyamory and the doctrine of the Trinity. In L. Isherwood & D. von der Horst (Eds.), *Contemporary theological approaches to sexuality* (pp. 289–312). London: Routledge.
- Córdova Quero, H., Goh, J. N., & Campos, M. S. (Eds.). (2014). *Queering migrations towards, from, and beyond Asia*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Goh, J. N. (2018). *Living out sexuality and faith: Body admissions of Malaysian gay and bisexual men*. London: Routledge.
- Goh, J. N. (2017). Navigating sexual honesty: A qualitative study of the meaning-making of pornography consumption among gay-identifying Malaysian men. *Porn Studies*, 4(4), 447–462. doi: 10.1080/23268743.2017.1371066
- Goh, J. N. (2017). Bridging benedictions, enlightening embodiment: Interpretations of spirit through desire among gay and bisexual Malaysian men. *Journal for the Study of Spirituality*, 7(2), 128–141. doi: 10.1080/20440243.2017.1370907
- Goh, J. N. (2017). From polluted to prophetic bodies: Theo-pastoral lessons from the lived experiences of gay, HIV-positive Christian men in Singapore. *Practical Theology*, 10(2), 133–146. doi: 10.1080/1756073X.2017.1296240
- Goh, J. N. (2016). Imaginative assemblages of transcendent/desire: Non-heteronormative Malaysian men speak up and talk back. *Critical Research on Religion*, 4(2), 125–140. doi: 10.1177/2050303216647104
- Goh, J. N. (2016). Close encounters of the authentic kind: Exploring the meaning-making of love, sex and intimacy among gay-identifying Malaysian men. In J. C. H. Lee & M. Ferrarese (Eds.), *Punks, monks and politics: Authenticity in Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia* (pp. 47–64). London: Rowman & Littlefield International.
- Goh, J. N. (2016). 'Why is it wrong?': Conceptualisations of sexual wrongdoing and sexual ethics among gay-identifying Malaysian men. In Y. S. L. Chan, J. F. Keenan, & S. G. Kochuthara (Eds.), *Doing Asian theological ethics in a cross-cultural and an interreligious context* (pp. 347–360). Bengaluru, India: Dharmaram Publications.
- Goh, J. N. (2015). Peculiar politics in Malaysia: A queer perspective on non-heteronormative Malay-Muslim men. In J. E. Cox & J. Grzelinska (Eds.), *Ways of queering, ways of seeing* (pp. 3–33). Oxford, UK: Inter-Disciplinary Press.
- Goh, J. N. (2014). Fracturing interwoven heteronormativities in Malaysian Malay-Muslim masculinity: A research note. *Sexualities*, 17(5–6), 600–617. doi: 10.1177/1363460714526317
- Goh, J. N. (2014). 'You must follow our belief or else you can't receive God': Constructing a sexual bi/theology of Eucharist. *Dialog*, 53(2), 149–158. doi: 10.1111/dial.12105
- Goh, J. N. (2014). Transgressive empowerment: Queering the spiritualities of the maknyahs of PT Foundation. In H. Córdova Quero, J. N. Goh, & M. S. Campos (Eds.), *Queering migrations towards, from, and beyond Asia* (pp. 123–137). New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

- Goh, J. N. (2012). Mak nyah bodies as sacred sites: Uncovering the queer body-sacramentality of Malaysian male-to-female transsexuals. *CrossCurrents*, 62(4), 512–521. doi: 10.1111/cros.12006
- Goh, J. N. (2012). Nyah-Islam: The reconstruction of God and institutional Islam by Malaysian male-to-female transsexuals. *In God's image*, 31(2), 33–44.
- Goh, J. N. (2012). The word was not made flesh: Theological reflections on the banning of Seksualiti Merdeka 2011. *Dialog*, 51(2), 145–154. doi: 10.1111/j.1540-6385.2012.00671.x
- Goh, J. N. (2012). The homosexual threat: Appraising masculinities and men's sexualities in Malaysia. In J. Hopkins & J. C. H. Lee (Eds.), *Thinking through Malaysia: Culture and identity in the 21st century* (pp. 167–186). Selangor, Malaysia: Strategic Information and Research Development Centre.

Gender and Women's Studies Northern Corridor Research Centre

Universiti Utara Malaysia

Norehan Abdullah

Introduction

The Northern Corridor Research Centre (NCRC) of University Utara Malaysia (UUM) acknowledges gender studies as one of its niche areas of research. Although UUM does not offer or have a specific gender programme, there is nonetheless a special interest group (SIG) on gender and women's studies, started in 2012 and currently parked under the NCRC.

Research

Most research projects conducted are team-based, with researchers coming from different disciplinary backgrounds. Junior and senior academicians contribute to the rich diversity of research teams. In addition, both undergraduate and postgraduate students conduct research on gender and women, the latter to obtain their MA and PhD degrees.

The following are some of the current research interests and areas of expertise at the Gender Studies Programme (GSP):

- Gender, women, and management
- Gender and development planning
- Gender, law, and governance
- Gender, work, and care
- Gender and politics
- Gender roles and the transformation of the institution of the family
- Gender and migration
- Gender and social policy

- Gender and socialisation
- Gender, poverty, and the informal sector
- Gender and entrepreneurship

Research topics

1.	Integriti Usahawan Wanita Muslim dalam Industri Kosmetik di Malaysia
2.	Amalan Pengurusan Islam dalam Kalangan Usahawan Wanita Muslim Yang Berjaya
3.	Penyediaan Pelan Tindakan Wanita dan Keluarga Negeri Kedah 2011-2015
4.	Strategi Pengurusan Islami di Kalangan Usahawan Wanita Melayu Pulau Pinang Dan Kesannya ke Atas Kejayaan Perniagaan
5.	Kajian Persempadanan Malaysia - Thailand: Kemasukan Peniaga Wanita Thailand di Padang Besar, Malaysia
6.	Kajian Penerokaan Mengenai Pengalaman Seksual bagi Wanita Berumahtangga
7.	Jurang Digital (Digital Divide) Dalam Kalangan Wanita: Pembentukan Model Gelagat Pencarian Maklumat Sebagai Penyelesaian Alternatif
8.	Pembangunan Kerangka Modul Usahawan Wanita Melayu
9.	Mahkamah Keluarga: Model Baharu dalam Menangani Jenayah Keganasan Rumahtangga Terhadap Wanita
10.	Imej Wanita Melayu Abad Ke-21 Dalam Drama Bersiri Yang Telah Diadaptasi Daripada Novel Popular
11.	Metodologi Rasulullah S.A.W. Dalam Pendidikan Anak-Anak: Aplikasinya Dalam Kalangan Staf Wanita UUM
12.	Persepsi Pelatih-Pelatih Wanita di Cure and Care
13.	Kajian Impak E-Perniagaan Atau E-Dagang Ke Atas Usahawan Wanita Melayu Berjaya di Malaysia
14.	Pembentukan Model Perilaku Komunikasi dan Keberdayaan Wanita Dalam Sektor Agribisnis
15.	Cantik dan Langsing Melalui Pengambilan Dadah: Faktor-Faktor Risiko Pengambilan Dadah dan Pil Kecantikan Dalam Kalangan Wanita
16.	Bekerja di Rumah: Kajian ke Atas Usahawan Wanita di Negeri Pulau Pinang
17.	Pembentukan Model Pengurusan "Quality Work-Life" Melalui Sistem Sokongan Sosial untuk Wanita Berkerjaya
18.	Penyertaan Kaum Wanita dalam Bidang Keusahawanan Luar Bandar Melalui E-Business. Implikasi, Prospek dan Cabaran. Kajian di Perkampungan Gerakan Daya Wawasan
19.	Orientasi Pembelajaran Matematik (OPM) dan Pencapaian Matematik Berdasarkan Jantina, Bangsa dan Lokasi Sekolah Menengah

20	Faktor Peramal dan Jantina Sebagai Penyerhana dalam Amalan Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) di Sabah
21	A Framework of Gender Contribution to Open Source Software Innovation Process: Employing Delphi Method
22	Drop Dead Handsome and Prince Charming: Chick Lit and the Construction of Gender Identity
23	Gender Differences in Mathematics Using Dif Analyses in Coeducational Chinese Secondary Schools
24	Study of Adaptive Malay Vowel Feature Extraction Method Based on Gender
25	The Role of the Audit Committee's Gender in Modelling the Quality of Earnings Forecast
26	Act Like a Woman, Think Like a Man: Gender Representations in Malaysian Teenage Magazines
27	The Influence of Gender, Age and Socio Economic Variables in Health Information Dissemination
28	Gender Differences in the Text Messaging of Young Jordanian Students: A Sociolinguistic Analysis

The gender experts include:

Dr Rohana Yusof, Professor and Director of NCRC

Dr Norehan Abdullah, Associate Professor

Dr Kalthum Hassan

Dr Nur Syakiran Akmal Ismail

Dr Ummu Atiyah Ahmad Zakuan

Networking

International and professional organisations

NCRC networks with both local and international organisations that are tapped regularly for support. One of the international agencies that has supported NCRC is the Asia Pacific University Community Engagement Networks (APUCEN). In addition, NCRC networks with the Women's Exco of Kedah State, Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA) of USM, and Institut Darul Ridzuan (IDR) as well as with Khazanah Research Institute (KRI). In addition, NCRC also networks with Pusat Studi Ibu dan Anak, Universiti Islam Bandung (UNISBA).

Community activities

NCRC conducts training, seminars, and workshops; furthermore, it also drafts memorandums, conducts gender analyses of national policies for the community, and writes action plans for state governments. The signature programme of NCRC is in its organising of the International Conference on ASEAN Women (ICAW). The first ICAW was organised in Bandung, Indonesia in 2013, while the second was in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah in 2016.

Policy interventions and impact

NCRC successfully delivered a resolution based at the 2nd ICAW to the Deputy Minister of Women, Family and Community Development in February 2017. The resolution focused on the significance and importance of mainstreaming gender at the national level.

Challenges

The greatest challenge faced by UUM is that there is no gender disciplinary programme to start with. Gender studies courses on gender and development are taught separately in the School of Government (SOG) and the School of International Studies (SOIS).

Contact : Associate Professor Dr Norehan Abdullah

Address : Northern Corridor Research Centre

Universiti Utara Malaysia

06010 UUM Sintok

Kedah

Malaysia.

Tel : +6049286559

Fax : +6049286561

E-mail : ncrc@uum.edu.my; norehan@uum.edu.my

Website : <http://www.ncrc.uum.edu.my/>

Publications

- Abdul M. M. M. M. (2018). Generational differences in workplace communication from the perspectives of female leaders in Malaysia. *Journal of Asian Pacific Communication*, 28(1), 129-150.
- Abdul L. R. (2017). Women in board of directors and real earnings management: Accretive share buyback in Malaysia. *Asian Journal of Finance & Accounting*, 9(2), 48-59.
- Abdullah N. (2014). A preliminary study on rural women entrepreneurs: Characteristics and business success factors. *International Review of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 7(2), 172-181.
- Abdullah N. (2014). Empowering older women in Malaysia: Understanding their health care demand. *Journal of Governance and Development*, 10(1), 93-108.
- Abdullah N. (2013). Fertility model and female labour force participation in selected ASEAN countries. *Journal of Economics, Business and Management*, 1(3), 291-294.
- Ahmad Z. U. A. (2013). Women in politics in Malaysia: A brief history. *International Journal of Islamic Thoughts*, 2(1), 19-44.
- Ahmad Z. N. A. (2012). The pre- and post-IPOs gender composition of board of directors in Malaysia. *Gender in Management: An International Journal*, 27(7), 449-462.
- Ahmad F. (2011). An overview on women's leadership issues in Jordan. *Journal of Politics Law*, 4(2), 67-73.
- Amran N. A. (2016). Are Malaysian women directors associated with high earnings quality? *Advanced Science Letters*, 22(5-6), 1348-1351.
- Awang H. R. (2016). Women leadership in higher education: Can the glass ceiling be broken? *The NIEW Journal: The Voice of the NAM Woman*, 4-11.
- Bakar M. S. (2017). Does work-family conflict moderate the relationship between social networking and Malay women's entrepreneurial success? *International Journal of Economic Research*, 14(14 Part 2), 201-213.
- Bohari A. M. (2013). Knowledge based information system for strengthening the competitive advantages of women technopreneurs in Malaysia. *Information Management and Business Review*, 5(5), 225.
- Bohari A. M. (2012). Business intelligence as survival strategies of women entrepreneurs in Malaysia. *Journal of Asian Business Strategy*, 2(11), 229-237.
- Hashim N. (2017). Factors that influence women entrepreneurial success in Malaysia: A conceptual framework. *International Journal of Research in Business Studies and Management*, 4(1), 16-23.
- Hashim N. (2016). Gender entrepreneurial intentions: A developing countries perspective. *Paradigms: A Research Journal of Commerce, Economics, and Social Sciences*, 10(2), 53-63.
- Hashim N. (2012). Development of women entrepreneurs: The case of Malaysia. *World Journal of Social Sciences*, 2, 123-145.
- Hassan K. (2013). The impacts of socio-economic activities towards improving the quality of life among rural women. *Journal of Governance & Development*, 9, 93-116.
- Ismail N. S. A. (2017). Preferred living arrangement and level of preparation among future elderly Malay women in Kubang Pasu Kedah. *Journal of Governance & Development*, 13(1), 30-42.

- Ismail N. S. A. (2017). Kesejahteraan hidup warga emas: Perancangan berasaskan gender. *GEOGRAFA: OnlineTM Malaysia Journal of Society and Space*, 13(3), 75-85.
- Ismail N. S. A. (2016). Mengarusperdana gender di Malaysia: Satu tinjauan konseptual. *GEOGRAFA: Malaysia Journal of Society and Space*, 12(7), 160-171.
- Ismail N. S. A. (2013). Good governance practices: Women participation and gender mainstreaming. *Journal of Governance & Development*, 9, 187-211.
- Johari H. (2016). Women and barriers for upward career advancement – A survey at Perak State Secretariat, Ipoh, Perak. *Procedia Economics and Finance*, 35, 574-581.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2017). Women representation on boards of Malaysian companies and firm characteristics. *Journal of Governance & Development*, 13(1), 13-32.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2016). Does having women on boards create value? The impact of societal perceptions and corporate governance in emerging markets. *Strategic Management Journal*, 37(3), 466-476.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2016). Does representation of women directors and their demographic characteristics affect CSR disclosure? Evidence from Malaysia. *Business, Management and Economics Research*, 2(4), 81-89.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2016). Market reactions towards the appointment of women to the boards of Malaysian firms. *Journal of Multinational Financial Management*, 36, 75-88.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2016). Women directors, family ownership and earnings management in Malaysia. *Asian Review of Accounting*, 24(4), 525-550.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2013). Gender, ethnic and age diversity on the boards of large Malaysian firms. *Jurnal Pengurusan*, 38, 27-40.
- Ku Ismail K. N. I. (2013). What it takes for women to reach the corporate boardrooms in Malaysia. *Corporate Ownership and Control*, 14(3), 338-344.
- Mahdzir N. (2016). Domestic violence court: A new model for domestic violence against women in Malaysia. *UUM Journal of Legal Studies*, 2, 92-102.
- Minai M. S. (2017). Empirical evidence on the entrepreneurial mind of the female graduate-to-be in Malaysia. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management*, 21(1/2), 49-63.
- Mohd Jali M. R. (2017). Decision-making ability as a source of empowerment among rural women of Pakistan. *Global Social Welfare*, 4(3), 117-125.
- Mustaffa C. S. (2016). Examining the differences of gender on psychological well-being. *International Review of Management and Marketing*, 6(8S), 82-87.
- Ngah K. (2017). Turning point of young Malaysian women participation in national political landscape. *International Conference on Business and Social Science 2017*, 23(8), 7499 -7501.
- Yusof R. (2016). Relationship between belief and educational achievement among women and under-aged of North-Eastern Nigeria: A Qualitative Approach. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 21(5), 38-48.
- Yusof R. (2015). An assessment of 'Zawarawa' mass marriage program, in Kano State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Social Science and Humanity*, 5(10), 849-855.
- Yusof R. (2012). A model of the process of women's entry into business ownership: A study among Malay businesswomen in Malaysia. *Journal of Governance and Development*, 8, 13-26.

Gender Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

Parveen Kaur and Nwanesi Peter Karubi

History and background

The Faculty of Social Sciences was one of the first two faculties offering undergraduate academic programmes when Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) was established on the 5th of August 1993. The Faculty of Social Sciences was upgraded to the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FSSH) in 2018. The upgrade is a reflection of the extensive progress of this faculty in view of its staff, students, and societal development.

Structure

UNIMAS does not offer a specific programme in gender studies; nevertheless, there are a few courses offered to the undergraduate and postgraduate students on gender and women. Lecturers at FSSH are also actively involved in research and publication in this area.

Staff profile

Some of the academic staff at FSSH who incorporate gender and women issues in their teaching are:

Dr Parveen Kaur

Dr Nwanesi Peter Karubi

Dyg. Hajrayati Bt. Awg Kassim

Dr Adam Andani Mohammed

Dr Lucy Sebli Seidelson

Dayang Asmah Bt. Awang Hamdan

Dr Siti Zanariah Bt. Ahmad Ishak
Dr Faizah Bt. Hj Mas'ud

Vision and Mission

Vision

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities aspires to be a renowned centre of social science studies both nationally and internationally.

Mission

- To attain an outstanding level of teaching, learning, and researching in the field of social sciences;
- to instil the spirit of striving towards excellence and integrity in pursuing social science knowledge and research; and
- to contribute to societal and national development in an intellectual context.

Aims

- To train and produce graduates in various disciplines of social science armed with critical thinking and analytical skills, and who possess skills in application of information technology and communication (ICT);
- to offer postgraduate programmes in certain fields; and
- to establish a conducive environment for research and publication that supports quality teaching and learning.

Programmes

Teaching

Social sciences is a branch of knowledge which advances our understanding of gender, social, cultural, and geopolitical complexities. Through the social sciences, we will be better equipped to handle both the present and future of social issues, and problems arising from the interactions of these

complexities. Thus, the social sciences (including gender related studies) highly relevant field of study, particularly at this time, as Malaysia is currently experiencing rapid socio-economic transformation in its pursuit of attaining a fully developed nation status by the year 2020.

The faculty's undergraduate programme has been carefully designed to provide an integrated curriculum for moulding students not only into well-balanced and socially conscious individuals, but also in providing them with practical skills in understanding the gender dimension. Part of this goal is accomplished by linking the faculty with local communities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including women's groups, and the public and private sectors, through our industrial placement programme at the undergraduate level. In addition, our long-term goal is to make the faculty known for its research excellence in Borneo especially in relation to gender related issues. This is incorporated in their first year course: SSF1083 Gender, Ethnicity, and Class.

FSSH also offers courses specifically on Feminist Approaches to Women's Development in their Master of Environmental Management (Development Planning) by coursework which is an interdisciplinary degree run jointly with the Faculty of Resource Science. Master of Science and PhD degrees are also obtained through various research focusing on gender and women's issues.

Multi-disciplinary approach

The academic programmes of the FSSH are multi-disciplinary in approach which includes aspects on gender, women, and society so as to import knowledge related to various perspectives within social sciences. An integrated approach on gender is necessary to provide students with a conceptual framework for development planning and the management of dynamic change and growth, particularly in the context of Malaysia's rapid industrialisation. FSSH graduates are also exposed to both theoretical and practical skills so as to enable them to be more competitive when entering the job market.

Programme objectives

Programme objectives are monitored by the programme's Panel Advisory Board and employers, stakeholder, alumni, and students. Within five years of graduation, graduates of the FSSH are expected to contribute to

the profession and to society by achieving a combination of the following milestones, by being able to:

- participate and take a leadership role on various aspects of real life environment and practice their profession ethically, with integrity and objectivity;
- work individually as well as in team-based environments; and
- continually improve their level of knowledge, skills, and competency through professional life-long learning and postgraduate education.

Undergraduate programmes

The list of undergraduate programmes offered at the faculty are as below:

Communication Studies (WA02)
 Industrial Relations and Labour Studies (WA12)
 Anthropology and Sociology (WA14)
 International Studies (WA15)
 Politics and Government Studies (WA21)
 Development Planning and Management (WA22)
 Social Work Studies (WA23)

Gender issues taught in courses

The faculty has various gender studies programmes imbedded in its research niche, and teaching and learning structure. Issues related to gender are also taught in the courses below:

Introduction to Social Sciences
 Introduction to Anthropology and Sociology
 Gender, Ethnicity, and Class
 Ethnic Relations
 Culture and Ethnicity in Borneo
 Sociology of Youth
 Sociology of Development
 Work and Society
 Kinship and Family in Borneo
 Contemporary Indigenous Belief Systems

Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Identity
 Communication and Society
 Sociology of Work
 Introduction to Malaysian Social History
 Introduction to Social welfare and Social Work
 Community Work
 Work and the Law
 Women and Minorities
 Family and Child Welfare

Research

To sustain the fast-growing research activities within the faculty, the management has identified certain niche-areas that need to be grouped in order to narrow the gaps between UNIMAS and the community. Each of the niche-areas identified is classified to each research cluster. There are three research clusters to support the available niche areas. They are:

Governance, Security, and Strategic Studies
 Society, ICT, and Development
 Gender, Indigenous, and Marginalised Communities

The Gender Studies Research Cluster is incorporated in the Gender, Indigenous, and Marginalised Communities research cluster. The Gender Studies Research Cluster in the faculty is very active in research, workshops, seminars, conferences, and publications in all aspects of gender and women.

Gender related research areas

1	Modernity and Livelihood in Southwest Sarawak: Sociological Study on Lingga, Sri Aman, Sarawak
2	Iban Diaspora in Johore Baharu and Tawau: Local Adaptation, Processes, and Impacts of Migration
3	Perubahan dan Pembangunan Masyarakat Bidayuh di Sarawak
4	Women and Child Trafficking: Cognisant Trafficking and Incognisant Child Trafficking
5	Bejalai: Its Effects on Indai Blues and the Iban Traditional Bilek Structure
6	Relationship between Eating Disorder and Self-esteem among University Students: A Malaysian Study

7	Perceptions of the ASEAN Community: A Qualitative Study of the Malaysian University Students' Attitudes, Awareness and Expectations of the ASEAN Community
8	Socio-Economic Study of the Community in Lundu, Kuching, Sarawak on Poverty Eradication Programmes
9	"How Hakka am I?": The Hakkaness of non-Chinese Brides
10	Impacts of Environmental Changes on the Livelihood of the Community in Lundu/Sematan, Sarawak
11	Localised Beliefs of Tua Pek Kong and Datuk Kong among the Chinese Community in Sarawak
12	Documenting Traditional Knowledge: The Rural Folks' Stories of the Kelabit Highlands
13	Conceptualising Conformity and Resistance: A Visual Ethnography Case Study of Urban Melanau
14	Evaluating Health Status of University Students: A Cross-sectional Study
15	The Development of Ethnic Tourism and Its Cultural Implication on Bidayuh Architecture and Ritual
16	Implementing Telecentre Programmes Among Orang Asli in West Malaysia
17	Community Perception and Accessibility among Users of Bintulu Hospital and Health Clinics
18	Access to Land by the Urban Poor, Ensuring the Right for Survival: A Case Study of Kampung Sinar Budi Baru and Kampung Desa Wira, Batu Kawa, Kuching
19	Research on the Reading Habits among Public Library Users in Kuching, Sri Aman, Sarikei, Sibul, Bintulu, Miri and Limbang
20	Interchange in Civilisation: Social and Cultural Changes in Borneo
21	Participation of the Melanau Women in the Cottage Industry of Sago-Based Food Products in Mukah, Sarawak
22	Strategies for Sustainable Livelihood Among Small-Scale Farmers in Mukah District of Sarawak
23	Assessing the Sago Smallholders Satellite Estate Development (SSSED) Programme in Mukah/Dalat Areas
24	Penglibatan Sosial Belia Berstatus Socio-Ekonomi Rendah di Kawasan Sadong Jaya dan Samarahan
25	Developing a Stigma Reduction Initiative through Newly Invented Identities: Insights from People Living with HIV/AIDS and Their Caregivers
26	Kajian Potensi Pokok Sekiu sebagai Sumber kepada Industry yang Mapan bagi Masyarakat Melanau
27	Pemetaan Politik: Faktor Sosioekonomi dan Etnik dalam Mempengaruhi Perspektif Politik di Kawasan Sri Aman

28	Migrasi Luar Bandar ke Bandar, Strategi Kelangsungan Hidup dan Kesejahteraan: Satu Kajian dalam Kalangan Belia Minoriti dan Terpinggir (B40) Sarawak
29	Multi Local Living and Spatially Dispersed Local Iban Households

Policy interventions and impact

Research conducted by FSSH academicians in various dimensions on women and gender have had a big impact on policy makers and the industry. Findings are presented to the relevant government agencies and industries for further implementation of policies. International postgraduate students from FSSH who have actively done research on women and development are activists for women's development, empowerment and awareness promotion in their homelands. Academicians in various other UNIMAS faculties along with FSSH have also conducted and presented their research regarding women in Sarawak through various channels such as conferences, workshops, symposiums, seminars, talks, and publications

Challenges

The greatest challenge faced by FSSH is the absence of an independent Centre for Gender Studies. The establishment of such a Centre will enhance and stimulate greater gender debate, research, documentation, and the establishment of a gender based data bank at FSSH.

Another significant challenge faced by many of the academicians here is obtaining grants on gender related issues in Sarawak. There is a dire need to examine problems related to women and gender especially in the interior areas of Sarawak where poverty and accessibility are the main obstacles hindering the growth of women's empowerment.

Contact : Dr Parveen Kaur

Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology and Sociology

Address : Faculty of Social Sciences

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak

Email : sspkaur@unimas.my; prvnpk@yahoo.com

Tel : +60126523375

Dr Nwanesi Peter Karubi

Senior Lecturer, Department of Anthropology and Sociology

Address : Faculty of Social Sciences

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak

Email : pknwanesi@unimas.my

Tel : Tel: +6082 584 120

Website : www.unimas.my

Publications

- Adam Andani Mohammed. (2015). Coping with life under tension: A case study on women in conflict areas in Ghana. *International Journal of Novel Research in Humanity and Social Sciences*, 2(5), 5-18.
- Cheng, S. H. (2015). *For better or worse: Marriage and family in Sarawak*. London: Whiting & Birch.
- Cheng, S. H. (2010). *Globalisation and women's health vulnerabilities in Malaysia*. Kuching: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.
- Cheng, S. H. & Talib, R. (2011). *Tra Zehnder: Iban woman patriot of Sarawak*. Kota Samarahan, Sarawak: UNIMAS Publisher.
- Chin, J. & Puyok, A. (2010). Going against the tide: Sabah and the 2008 Malaysian General Election. *Asian Politics & Policy*, 2(2), 219-235.
- Elena Gregoria Chai Chin Fern. (2013). Ancestor power: Marriage rituals of a Hakka community in Sarawak, Malaysia. *Malaysian Journal of Chinese Studies*, 2(1), 35-47.
- Goy, S. C. (2015). Differences in decline: Quantile regression of male-female earnings differential in Malaysia. *The Singapore Economic Review*, 60(4), 20-29.
- Goy, S. C. & Johnes, G. (2012). Revisiting the impact of occupational segregation on the gender earnings gap in Malaysia. *Jurnal Ekonomi Malaysia*, 46(1), 13-25.
- Isnin, N., Nwanesi, P. K., & Sebli-Sieldson, L. (2011). *Women in the electoral politics: A case study of 2011 Sarawak state legislative assembly election*. UiTM Shah Alam, Selangor: Faculty of Administrative Science and Policy Studies.
- Linda, A. L. (2018). Contesting disciplinary power: Transnational domestic labour in the global South. *Asian Studies Review*, 42(1), 161-177.
- Mersat, N. I. & Sanggin, S. E. (2011). *Demokrasi di pinggiriran*. Kuching: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.
- Nor Ba'yah Abdul Kadir & Kamsiah Ali. (2012). Women's voices in relation to fate, cultural practices and life satisfaction: A case study of Sarawakian single mothers in Samarahan, Sarawak. *e-BANGI*, 7(1), 107-118.
- Nwanesi, P. K. (2014). Economic participation through the micro credit scheme: Transforming poor women or a case of 'No Leave, No Transfer'. *Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 19(7), 62-71.
- Nwanesi, P. K. & Goy, S. C. (2015). Is ICT gendered? An understanding from the Orang Asli. *Geografia: Malaysian Journal of Society and Space*, 11(6), 67-77.

- Nwanesi, P. K. & Sebli-Seidelson, L. (2010). *Studying women: Perspective from the South*. FSS Working Series paper, April 2010. UNIMAS.
- Nwanesi, P. K., Anisiobi, A. L., & Okpara, I. U. (2014). Women entrepreneurship in Malaysia: An empirical assessment of the challenges faced by micro and small business owners in Kuching-Sarawak. *International Journal of Humanities Social Sciences and Education*, 1(4), 48-58.
- Nwanesi P. K., & Muhammad Khalique. (2012). Socio-economic realities at work: A study on female workers in the SMEs located in Malaysia. *Journal of Information Management and Business Review*, 4(6), 311.
- Parveen Kaur. (2015). The vanishing beauties: The long-ears Orang Ulu women of Sarawak, Malaysia. *International Review of Modern Sociology*, 41(2), 177-185.
- Parveen Kaur. (2014). Lotus in the pond: The symbolisation of women in Sikhism. *International Review of Modern Sociology*, 40(1), 65.
- Parveen Kaur. (2014). The perceptions on gender equality among the Sikhs in Malaysia. *International Review of Modern Sociology*, 40(2), 163-174.
- Parveen Kaur (2013). *Understanding marital power in issues in development in Malaysia and Nigeria: Multidimensional approaches*. Institute of East Asian Studies, University Malaysia Sarawak.
- Parveen Kaur. (2013). Women's resources and power dynamics in Sikh families in Malaysia. *International Journal of Sociology of the Family*, 39(1-2), 77-92.
- Parveen Kaur. (2012). Inequality in decision-making and marital power among the Sikhs. *International Journal of Sociology of the Family*, 38(2), 149-160.
- Parveen Kaur. (2012). The relationship between gender ideology and division of labour in Sikh households. *International Journal of Sociology of the Family*, 38(1), 105-120.
- Parveen Kaur. (2011). Norms, resources and marital power: A study of Sikh households in Malaysia. *International Journal of Sociology of the Family*, 37(2), 16-25.
- Parveen Kaur. (2010). *Gender ideologies, resources and marital power*. Germany: Vdm Verlag Publishers.
- Sebli-Seidelson, L. (2016). *The impacts of bejalai on contemporary Iban women - Indai Blues*. Kota Samarahan, Sarawak: UNIMAS Press.
- Siti Zanariah Ahmad Ishak, Malia Taibi, & Ahmad Nizar Yaakub. (2011). Impact of sago crop commercialisation programmes on gender roles of Melanau communities in Sarawak, Malaysia. *Asian Social Science*, 13(12), 35.

Gender Perspectives and Independent Research

Universiti Teknologi MARA Malaysia

Kiranjit Kaur

History and background

Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia (UiTM) was established as a public university in 1999. However, it has been offering tertiary education from the time it began as a small college called RIDA Training Centre (1956-1965), which evolved into MARA College (1965-1967), and then as MARA Institute of Technology (or Institut Teknologi MARA, 1967-1999), before it attained university status in 1999. Its primary objective is to train Bumiputeras, especially for professional careers in the various fields in the country, including science and technology, social science and humanities, and business and management. In terms of number of campuses, programmes and students, it is the largest university in Malaysia, offering 508 programmes in 24 faculties, at the Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor, Master, and Doctorate levels, in 38 campuses (including 13 Branch Campuses, with one in each state of the country) to a total of 146,403 students, throughout the country. The main governance and administration centres are based in Shah Alam, Selangor.

Structure

UiTM does not offer a specific programme in gender studies; however, a number of lecturers conduct research in, as well as integrate aspects of, the area of women and gender studies into their course materials in a number of programmes in different faculties, especially the Faculty of Communication

and Media Studies, Faculty of Law, and Faculty of Business and Management.

Staff profile

Some of the academic staff who integrate gender perspectives into their courses include:

Dr. Kiranjit Kaur, Professor
Faculty of Communication and Media Studies

Dr Geetha Subramaniam, Associate Professor
Faculty of Business and Management

Programmes

Teaching

Gender issues are integrated into a number of courses offered to all students. A number of compulsory and elective courses offered by the Communication and Media Studies, Business, and Law faculties include discussions on gender equality, gender mainstreaming, stereotyping, discrimination, legal and other socially related concerns. The Bachelor of Laws (Hons.) programme in the Faculty of Law offers 'Women and the Law' as an elective paper (3 Credits). This course covers feminist jurisprudence, international women's human rights, constitutional rights and women, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and its application, and issues relating women to crime, labour, family, and commercial law.

Research

Although there is no gender studies research cluster at UiTM, several lecturers have done, or are conducting, research related to the subjects of gender and women based on their own interests. Research areas include:

- Women and (or in) the Media,
- Law and Women
- Women in Business and Management
- Women and Health

- Women in Professions
- Muslim Women

Networking

A number of academics (and some students) at UiTM are involved, as committee or ordinary members, with national and local women's organisations (NGOs and agencies), women's civic groups, and women's chapters of professional and service groups. These groups include the National Council of Women's Organisations, Malaysia (NCWO), Women Graduates Association of Malaysia (Persatuan Siswazah Wanita Malaysia), Southeast Asian Association for Gender Studies (SAMA), Women in Management, Family and Community Development, and Muslim women's groups.

In addition, the university faculty has been represented at a number of national and international conferences and workshops, including the Global Women's Summit, and the UN Committee on the Status of Women NGO side event, as well as on Panels related to Women and Gender Issues in academic conferences.

The university has also organised conferences on women's issues, as well as specific panels related to women and gender topics. These include the conference by the Law Faculty entitled The International Conference on Women and Children: Legal and Social Issues, held from 17 to 18 October 2016 at Dorsett Grand Subang Hotel, Malaysia.

Policy interventions and impact

Research conducted by UiTM academicians on women in politics, women in business and management, women in the media, women and health related factors, and women in Islam, has had some impact on policy makers and the industry. Results from research are shared with relevant government and regulatory agencies as well as with industry to create awareness and provide recommendations. The research findings are also integrated into training programmes offered by the university to practitioners. In addition, greater consideration of legal issues pertaining to women continue to be highlighted by seminars on Women and Law. Academics in various other UiTM faculties have also periodically conducted research and presented academic papers

regarding gender, and more specifically on women's issues, which have contributed to its literature.

Challenges

Conducting research on gender and women's studies at UiTM is challenging for its academic staff since there is no formal research cluster to drive the agenda in a sustainable and structured manner. There is however early discussion to establish a special interest research group on gender issues among a small number of academics. Without a gender studies programme, there is little incentive, beyond personal interest, to carry out gender-based research. However, personal interest in women's issues and independent participation by academics in women's NGOs and other groups has led some to pursue research and participate in conferences on this subject. There continues to be growing interest within the university on this subject, and hence, there is potential for UiTM to create an official gender studies research cluster.

Contact : Professor Dr. Kiranjit Kaur

Address : Faculty of Communication and Media Studies,
Universiti Teknologi MARA,
40450 Shah Alam, Selangor,
Malaysia.

Tel : +60123813145

Fax : +60355444861

Email : kiran126@salam.uitm.edu.my; kkludher@gmail.com

Website : <http://www.uitm.edu.my>

Publications

Kiranjit Kaur

Kiranjit Kaur (2012). Women migrant workers and visibility in Malaysia: The role of media in society. In Dirk Hoerder & Amarjit Kaur (Eds.), *Proletarian and gendered mass migrations: A global perspective on continuities and discontinuities from the 19th to the 21st century* (pp. 427-448). Leiden, Netherlands: Brill Publishers.

Kiranjit Kaur (Ed.) (2010). *Issues in social science research: Women in the workforce and information systems management*. Shah Alam, Malaysia: UPENA, Universiti

Teknologi MARA.

- Kiranjit Kaur (2009). Commercialization of women in Malaysian media. In Halimahton Shaari & Ismail Sualman (Eds.), *Issues in media and communication* (pp. 133-153).. Shah Alam: UPENA, Universiti Teknologi MARA Malaysia.
- Kiranjit Kaur (2009). Gender perspectives and independent research, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. In Cecilia Ng & Rashidah Shuib (Eds.), *A profile of women's and gender studies in Malaysia* (pp. 47-50). Penang: Women's Development Research Centre, Universiti Sains Malaysia.
- Kiranjit Kaur & Halimahton Shaari (2012). Women political candidates: The Malaysian media and their concerns. *Journalism and Mass Communication*, 2(1), ISSN 2160-6579, 385-398.
- Kiranjit Kaur & Halimahton Shaari (2010). Women and leadership in the Malaysian media: Views of journalists. In Kiranjit Kaur (Ed.), *Issues in social science research: Women in the workforce and information systems management* (pp. 1-18). Shah Alam: UPENA, Universiti Teknologi MARA.
- Kiranjit Kaur & Halimahton Shaari (2010). *Women and leadership in the Malaysian media*. Shah Alam, Malaysia: UPENA, Universiti Teknologi MARA.
- Kiranjit Kaur & Manjit Kaur (2011). Sikh women and leadership in Malaysian Sikh based institutions. In Shamsul, S.B. & Arunajeet Kaur (Eds.), *Sikhs in multicultural Southeast Asia: Negotiating an identity* (pp. 267-294).. Singapore: The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and the Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

Geetha Subramaniam

- Gillespie, K., Maniam, B., & Subramaniam, G. (2018). Glass ceiling effect on working woman. *Advanced Science Letters*, 24(7), 5156-5158.
- Khan, R.H., Parvin, S., & Subramaniam, G. (2016). Entrepreneurial efforts by Bangladeshi immigrant women in New Zealand: A preliminary analysis. *Journal of International Business, Economics and Entrepreneurship*, 1(1), 22 – 28.
- Subramaniam, G., Tan P. L., Maniam, B & Ali, E. (2018). Flexibility at the workplace: Does it impact empowerment and quality of life? *Asian Journal of Behavioural Studies*, 3(11), 97-106.
- Subramaniam, G., Mohamed K., N. A., Maniam, B., & Ali, E., (2016). The glass ceiling phenomenon: Does it really affect women's career advancement in Malaysia? *Journal of Organizational Culture Communications and Conflict, Allied Academies*, 20(1), 81-89.
- Subramaniam, G. & Nurfarahain M. S., (2016). Does work environment impact fertility rate?: A comparison between formal and informal sectors in Malaysia. *Journal of Emerging Economies and Islamic Research*, 4(1), 1-16.
- Subramaniam, G, Laura R., & Maniam, B. (2015). Defining economic success for women-closing the gender wage gap. *Journal of Economics, Business and Management*, 3(12), 1174-1179.
- Subramaniam, G., Tan P. L., Ruzita B., & Nurul, A. A. A. (2015). Do flexible working arrangements impact women's participation in the labour market: A multiple regression analysis. *Malaysian Journal of Consumer and Family Economics*, 18, 130-

140.

- Subramaniam, G., Overton, J., & Maniam, B. (2015). Flexible working arrangements, work life balance and women in Malaysia. *International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanity*, 5(1), 34-38.
- Subramaniam, G., Tan P. L., Nurul A. A.A., & Ruzita B. (2014). Impact of workplace flexibility on women and the labour market. *Australian Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences*, 8(5) Special 2014, 184-191.
- Subramaniam, G, Maniam, B., & Ali, E. (2013). Do flexible working arrangements impact working women's well-being? *Journal of Academy of Business and Economics*. 13(2), 79-84.
- Subramaniam, G., Maniam, B., & Ali, E. (2011). Can workplace flexibility have an effect on women's lifestyles and work-life balance? *International Journal of Business Research*, 11(4), 168 -173.
- Subramaniam, G., Ali, E., & Overton, J. (2010). Are Malaysian women interested in flexible working arrangements? *Business Studies Journal*, 2 (Special Issue), 83-98.
- Subramaniam, G., Iyer, M. G., & Maniam, B. (2010). Do Malaysian women who opt out of the labour market want to return? - A micro level analysis. *International Journal of Business Research*, 10(1), 106-113.
- Subramaniam, G., & Selvaratnam, D. P. (2010). Family friendly policies in Malaysia: Where are we? *Journal of International Business Research*. 9(1), 43-55.
- Subramaniam, G., Saadiah M., & Selvaratnam, D. P. (2010). Why do some women leave the labour force - A micro perspective from Malaysia. *Economic Bulletin*, 11, 1-17.
- Subramaniam, G., Iyer, M. G., Saadiah M., & Norlin N. (2010). Children and women's decision not to work: A study in Klang Valley. *Malaysian Journal of Consumer & Family Economics*. 13, 18 -27.

Publications in other faculties (selected):

- Abdullah, B. , Moize, B., Ismail B.A., Zamri M. & Mohd Nasir, N.F. (2017). Prevalence of menopausal symptoms, its effect to quality of life among Malaysian women and their treatment seeking behaviour. *The Medical Journal of Malaysia*, Apr 2017, 72(2), 94-99.
- Angelina S., Liaw S. C. M., Chittra M. & Jeyamahla V. (2010). Gendered-linked differences in speech styles: Analysing linguistic and gender in the Malaysian context. *Cross-Cultural Communication* 6(1), 18-28.
- Ehsan F. S., Nurul H. A. H.& Edward O. T. (2013). The comparative analysis of gender and social network among Malay SMEs entrepreneurs in Malaysia. Unpublished research report, Shah Alam: Universiti Teknologi MARA.
- Jamalunlaili A., Halim S. Y. J., Adlan A. B. & Wan M. W. A. R.. (2014). Students and women entrepreneurs' collaborations in social enterprise (WISE) Programme at UiTM, Malaysia, *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 168, 97-103.
- Mansor, N. & Mat, A. C. (2010). The significance of psychology and environment dimensions for Malaysian Muslim women entrepreneurs venturing. *International Journal of Human Sciences*, (online) 7(1), 253-269.

Editors' and Contributors' Notes

Sharon A. Bong, as former employee at ARROW (Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women), joined Monash in April 2003. She is currently a forum writer for the Asian Regional Committee of the Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church and a former Coordinator of the Ecclesia of Women in Asia, an academic forum of Catholic Asian women theologising in Asia. She is also a Research Associate of the UNESCO Chair Interreligious and Intercultural Relations – Asia-Pacific, and a patron of both the Catherine of Siena Virtual College and John Wijngaards Catholic Research Centre. At a local level, she is a life member of the Qualitative Research Association of Malaysia and was part of collaborative effort which prepared the 2018 Joint NGO Shadow Report to the CEDAW Committee.

Joseph N. Goh holds a PhD in gender, sexuality and theology, and his research interests include queer and LGBTI studies, human rights, and sexual health issues, diverse theological and religious studies, and qualitative research. Prior to joining Monash in 2016, Goh pursued an ecclesiastical career that spanned two decades, and worked as an HIV Counselling and Testing Manager at the community-based organisation, PT Foundation. Goh's work has appeared in diverse academic publications, human interest online resources, social commentaries, and radio shows, and he is deeply involved in various avenues of theological activism. Goh is the author of *Living Out Sexuality and Faith: Body Admissions of Malaysian Gay and Bisexual Men* (2018), and co-editor of *Queering Migrations Towards, From, and Beyond Asia* (2014) with Hugo Córdova Quero and Michael Sepidoza Campos.

Jamaluddin Aziz is a faculty member in Critical Media Studies of the School of Media and Communication Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. His research interests pivot on the intersectionality of gender in the media, focusing on filmic texts. In addition to his interest in applying critical theories in his writings,

Jamaluddin is now venturing into corpus linguistics, digital humanities, and data analytics in his inquiry further into gender research. In 2015-2016, he was seconded to the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development as a gender expert. His main responsibility at the Ministry was to promote gender awareness, mainstreaming, and sensitivity among the Ministries and Agencies in Malaysia. He has been the deputy director of the Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre, UKM since 2017. He is also the chair for the Tun Fatimah Hashim Women Lead Conference 2018.

Nwanesi Peter Karubi graduated with a BSc Sociology in 1993 from the Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria, and a Master degree from the Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, in 2000, with his thesis focusing on single mothers in Penang. In October 2003, he began his PhD studies at Canterbury University in Christchurch, New Zealand, and was conferred with a Doctor of Philosophy in 2007. His PhD thesis focused on micro-credit and women's empowerment which was eventually published as a book. From 2007 to 2009, he was attached to the Osaka Prefecture University as a visiting researcher, and his research work looked closely at women trafficking in West Africa. He joined Universiti Malaysia Sarawak in 2008 where his core research area is in Gender Studies. Since joining UNIMAS he has managed to maintain a good history in supervision, research and as a project site leader in a UNIMAS Telecentre project with the Orang Asli.

Kiranjit Kaur is a Professor in Public Relations at the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam, Malaysia. She has published a number of journal articles and book chapters in public relations, media ethics, media studies, and media and gender. Kiranjit has 33 years of lecturing experience, and is a Fellow and an Accredited Public Relations member of the Institute of Public Relations Malaysia (IPRM). She serves on the IPRM Council as Education Chair. She also sits on the industry-based Communication and Multimedia Content Forum Council; the Networked Media Research Collaboration Programme Steering Committee of Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission; and chairs the Malaysian National Council of Women's Organisations (NCWO) Media Committee. Kiranjit graduated with a PhD in Mass Communication from the University of Maryland, USA in 1998.

Lai Suat Yan is currently a Senior Lecturer at the Gender Studies Program, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, Malaysia. In 2014 she was awarded the Asian Public Intellectual Fellowship by the Nippon Foundation where she conducted research on religious women in Japan, Thailand, and Indonesia. She led the research on gender (in)equality in the legal profession in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor in 2013. Suat Yan specialises in gender-based violence work; teaching, researching, publishing, and conducting training to advocate for a campus free of sexual harassment. Her other research interests include gender, religion and social change, gender and literature, and gender equality at the workplace. She is currently the Deputy Chairperson of the Malaysian Academic Movement, the Vice-President of the Academic Staff Association of University Malaya, and an Executive Member of the Malaysian Social Science Association. She is an editorial board member of the Southeast Asian Social Science Review Journal.

Lai Wan Teng obtained her first degree in Chinese Studies (Major) and Gender Studies (Minor) from the University of Malaya, and her Master degree from Gender and Development Studies (GDS), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand. Her PhD research is entitled “We come. We work. We relate. The migrant labourers in Penang”, from the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn, Germany. She is a lecturer at the Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA), Universiti Sains Malaysia. She has extensive fieldwork experience in researching vulnerable groups, including women factory migrant workers, foreign domestic workers, and male labourers in the construction and services sectors. She worked in local women's non-governmental organisations prior to pursuing her career as an academician. Her research ranges from gender responsive and participatory budgeting, issues of sexual harassment, indigenous women, to women migrant workers accessing to sexual and reproductive healthcare.

Cecilia Ng Choon Sim is an independent researcher and consultant on women's rights and gender issues. Her latest appointment was at the (then) Women's Development Research Centre (KANITA), Universiti Sains Malaysia, where she was Visiting Professor and Honorary Consultant. She

was previously Associate Professor at Universiti Putra Malaysia, Research Fellow at the United Nations Institute for New Technologies (Maastricht, the Netherlands) and Visiting Associate Professor at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. Cecilia has conducted research and published widely on gender, development, and work, with a focus on globalisation, technological change, women's employment, and gender and democracy. She has also been involved with women's NGOs in training and advocacy on women's rights issues since the 1980s and is now moving towards watching the waves roll on by in the near future.

Noraida Endut is the Director and a Professor of the Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Noraida was part of the team who had worked to establish KANITA as an autonomous research centre of USM and she has been on its Board and its managerial team since 2001. She currently has research interests in the areas of women and the law, women in Islam, violence against women, gender and masculinity, gender and education and women and economic empowerment. Noraida is a Council Member of the Asian Association of Women's Studies (AAWS) and a Director on the Board of the International Women's Rights Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP AP). She has served as research and evaluation consultant for several international projects related to violence against women. She is currently on the university committee on sexual harassment that responds to and gives training on sexual harassment on campus.

Parveen Kaur is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University Malaysia Sarawak in West Malaysia. She has over 20 years of academic experience which include leading, researching, teaching, training, supervising and consulting. Parveen holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology and a Master of Philosophy in Human Development from University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. She is a recipient of the prestigious scholarship Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund Japan. Her wide range of expertise is in Sociology, Education, Communication and Counseling. Her potentials are in gender studies specifically in disability, human trafficking, employment, health, education, power, poverty, language, culture, religion, sexuality, violence, crime, information and communications technology.

Norehan Abdullah of the School of Economics, Finance and Banking, Universiti Utara Malaysia, is currently the Deputy Director for Northern Corridor Research Centre (NCRC), where she has held the position since 2015. Her PhD thesis focused on labour participation of married women and issues of childcare. Her areas of research interest and specialisation include labour economics, women and gender, entrepreneurship, elderly studies, and economic development. Her current research projects are the practice of Islamic management among women entrepreneurs, work-life balance, cost of living issues of the B40s, and living arrangements of Malaysian elderly. Norehan has presented in various national and international conferences and has published widely in the *International Journal of Social Economics*, *Jurnal Ekonomi Malaysia*, and the *Journal of Governance and Development*. At NCRC, she participates actively in managing research projects, as well as provides training and consultation on a wide range of issues including rural transformation and development studies, women entrepreneurship, and youth empowerment for various organisations.

Rusaslina Idrus is a senior lecturer at the Gender Studies Programme at University Malaya. Prior to joining UM, she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the National University of Singapore and a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore. She received her PhD training in social anthropology from Harvard University and a Master degree in social ecology and community development from Yale University. Her research interest includes indigenous rights, gender equality, subaltern histories, and issues concerning multicultural citizenship. She has published in journals such as *Indonesia and the Malay World* and *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*. She is currently working on a digital-stories project with Orang Asli youth.

Zumilah Zainalaludin is currently a senior lecturer at the Department of Resource Management and Consumer Studies, Faculty of Human Ecology, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). She graduated with a Bachelor of Accountancy (UPM, 1994); Master of Science (Human Resource Development) (UPM, 2001) and Ph.D (Family Economics and Management) (UPM, 2010). She is involved in more than 20 research studies related to gender, micro entrepreneurs, vulnerable groups, and poverty studies especially in the fisheries community. Zumilah is also actively involved in

capacity building. Some of the modules that have been developed include entrepreneurship development (under the European Union (EU) grant) and gender awareness modules (under JICA and NAM Institute for Women Empowerment (NIEW) grants).



ISBN 978-967-16411-0-1



9 789671 641101