A 6th knowledge sharing session entitled “Field Work and Sampling” was conducted on 5th April 2018 by Dr. Nur Shaylinda Mohd Zin. The speaker explained the importance of correct sampling method and factors to be considered in determining sampling strategy. Dr. Nur Shaylinda also emphasized on the importance of organizing sampling tasks including making a checklist of number of sampling stations, samples required for each sampling stations, samples preservation method, sample holding time as well as equipment and safety gears needed to conduct the sampling.

An interactive workshop on citation management and thesis formatting was successfully held on 17th April 2018. This session was conducted in two parts: 1st part covers the basics using Mendeley software for citation and bibliography management, delivered by Dr. Ahmad Rizal Alias and the 2nd part covers the techniques in thesis formatting using Microsoft Word, delivered by Mr. Abdullah Faisal Al-Shalif, a PhD student of FKAAS. The participants were given step-by-step instruction on how to use the features in both softwares. The speakers also shared some tips on how to prepare thesis formatting in super easy way.
On 17th April 2018, FKAAS bid farewell to our dedicated academician and mentor, Professor Ab. Aziz Abdul Latiff. Prof. Aziz had a 35 year long career as academician. He started to serve the polytechnics since 1983 for 10 years and then continued serving PLSP/ITTHO/KUiTHO/UTHM for the next 25 years (1993-2018). On behalf of MPRC community, we would like to express our utmost gratitude and appreciation to our mentor, Prof. Aziz for his guidance, support and supervision that has inspired all of us to do our best. For the dedication and hard work, you deserve the best retirement ever. We all wish you a long, healthy, relaxing and happy retirement life!

#7: What examiner expect from a student’s VIVA

A 7th Knowledge Sharing Session was held on 19th April 2018 by Prof. Ir. Dr. Amir Hashim Mohd Kassim. He has shared the procedures of a viva session and explained examiners role during the session. Prof. Amir also drawn his experience during multiple viva sessions he had examined and shared the expectation he had during the viva sessions. He also offered some useful tips to excel in viva including how to handle questions raised by the panels and what are the good practice during a viva session.
A training workshop for literature citations using Endnote 8 software has been conducted by Mr. Caleb Chinedu on 24th April 2018. This short course was in joint collaboration with the Faculty of Technology Management Postgraduate Society (FOTEPS). The workshop served as a hands-on session where participants were guided with step-by-step process by the trainer. The participants were equipped with the basics knowledge.

The first technical talk series for 2018 has been successfully organized on 25th April 2018 with full house crowd participants. The topic focused on Non Revenue Water (NRW). The informative talk was delivered by Mr. Muhammad Redha Md Hatta who is currently the Business Development Manager of Ranhill Water Services. The objective of the technical talk was to increase awareness of participants on non revenue water (NRW). MPRC would like to thank the speaker and his team for sharing his experience on NRW with us. After the talk, a site visit was arranged for a hands-on experience on the water flow monitoring at the Taman Universiti nearby.
This training workshop was held on 26th April 2018, conducted by the trainer, Mr. Tahir Lakhair, postgraduate student from FKAAS. During the workshop, participants were walked through the features in the ETABS software. ETABS is an engineering software product that caters to multistory building analysis and design. Mr. Tahir demonstrated the some analysis methods and solution techniques using the software. The participants were given opportunity to try designing a sample model with the assistance from the trainer.

1-day short course was conducted on 29th April 2018 subjected to quantitative data analysis using SPSS and EViews software. The trainers, Mr. Mujtaba Asad and Ms. Shabana Talpur were invited to deliver their knowledge. In this hands on course, Mr. Asad explained on how to develop data collection instruments, surveys and interviews as well as how to getting started with SPSS, data entry and organizing datasets. The participants were also guided and demonstrated by Ms. Talpur on the innovative graphical and statistical analysis features that can be generated using Eviews software.
Workshop on Mendeley software was conducted for the second time on 30th April 2018 due to overwhelming demand from the postgraduate students. The trainer, Mr. Abdullah Faisal Al-Shalif introduced the functionality and features of the software. The participants were taught and exposed to the main features of Mendeley from how to create an account, searching resources and exporting citations to Mendeley, organizing collections of citations, attaching files to citations, as well as creating and formatting bibliographies of citations.

Response Surface Methodology (RSM) 1st short course series was conducted on 2nd May 2018, by Mr. Shazarel Shamsudin, a senior lecturer from FKMP - UTHM. The ability to analyze data is a powerful skill that helps researchers make better decisions and presentation of the findings. RSM is one of the key and popular tool used for data analysis and the built-in pivot tables are arguably the most popular analytic tool. During this course, participants were taught how to plan efficient experiments testing with many variables. Free license for 30 Days were also distributed amongst all participants.
On May 6th, 2018, MPRC conducted its 9th Knowledge Sharing Session (KSS) in collaboration with UTHM Global Society (UGS) and Graduate student Association (GSA). Two international students, Mr. Muhammad Mujtaba Asad and Fahad Sherwani, who are holders of Malaysia International Scholarship (MIS) were invited to share their knowledge and experience during the session. It was very fruitful session for all international students as they always face financial difficulties during their studies. Attendees were interested to know how they can apply for MIS for next study session.

During the session, the speaker focused on “You have no idea, how to make your profile stronger for MIS application”. Both speaker shared their experiences starting from how to apply online for MIS until interview, including how to prepare proposal, presentation, dress code, important documents to be presented during interview, communications barriers, and many other useful tips that can be applied for successful MIS application.

An inspiring talk by Dr. Kabiru Abdullahi Ahmad on the 8th Knowledge Sharing Session (KSS) entitled “Green Pavement”. The session was held on 3rd May 2018. The speaker has shared best of his knowledge on the basics of Green Pavement through approaches and experiences towards his successful PhD study. The speaker also pointed out that green pavements constitute an inevitable path for society in road building in particular, not only due to their environmental aspects, but also because they constitute an economic saving in many cases in terms of net prices. In conclusion, one should also add the additional monetary value of the environmental benefits for society, the combination of which must not be called into question, in the interests of their being maximized by all means at our disposal and becoming a subject that sits prominently on society’s agenda.
A hands-on Training Workshop on Mendeley & Thesis formatting workshop that was previously conducted on 17th April 2018 by Dr. Ahmad Rizal Bin Allias and Mr. Abdullah Faisal Al-Shalif was again conducted on 13th May 2018 due to popular demand from the participants. This short course was conducted to enhance participants in understanding to manage research work, and make writing easy and fast, to format thesis using, features and techniques in Ms word and Mendeley to save efforts.

Qualitative Data Analysis with ATLAS.ti 7.5

A hands-on Training Workshop on Qualitative Data Analysis with ATLAS.ti 7.5 version THE NEXT LEVEL was conducted by Chaleb Chinedu on 14th May 2018 in collaboration with FOTEPS (Faculty of Technology Management & Business Postgraduate Society). ATLAS.ti is a Qualitative Research tool that can be used for coding and analyzing transcripts & field notes, building literature reviews, data management, creating network diagrams as well as data visualizations. The software provides tools that provide the user to locate, code, and annotate findings in primary data material, to weigh and evaluate their importance, and to visualize the often complex relations between them.
2nd version of RSM workshop was held on 15th May 2018, by Mr. Shazarel Shamsudin. A key part of the workshop was how to optimize a system. The speaker demonstrated using the tools in the software and how to get started with fast hand calculations for various models in the RSM. During the workshop, participants were exposed and taught how to plan efficient experiments - testing with many variables. Free 30-day trial license was provided to the participants to enhance their skill using the software.

MPRC has conducted short course session on ‘How to Conduct Systematic Literature Review (SLR) and Get it Publish: Hands-On Training’ by Mr. Mohammed Ishaq Mohammed. The session was held on 4th June 2018. From this session the participant learnt how to organize and plan well in constructing the literature review. The participant were clearly explained on how to conduct the search process, inclusion and exclusion criteria for literature information. At the end of the session, the participants were also engaged on how to conduct data analysis with step by step guidance from the trainer. This useful session should hopefully enhance the participant research activity.
In conjunction with Eid celebration, MPRC had organized Hari Raya Gathering for all MPRC communities on 28th June 2018. This event was aimed to foster better relationship and brotherhood among students and staff as well Malaysians and Internationals. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Norzila Othman, Deputy Dean (Research, Development and Publications) of FKAAS, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radin Maya Saphira (Head of MPRC) and Vicky Kumar (President of MPRC Student Chapter) had been invited to deliver their welcome speech. The attendees enjoyed pizzas, cakes and various local delicacies. The attendees also took the chance to pose for group pictures at the photo booth that was creatively prepared by Dr. Mohd Ariff and his team.
MPRC would like to congratulate the recipients of the grants, medal winner and BEM Jr. award. We also would like to extend our congratulations to all academicians of MPRC whose listed in the Top 15 Media, Top 20 Scopus Proceeding and Top 20 Book Chapter. We wish you more success in the future.
The successful completion of all MPRC activities was greatly assisted by the ceaseless cooperation and contribution made by the MPRC Staffs and MPRC Student Committee Members as listed and unlisted names for their unconditional effort. MPRC communities also would like to thanks all those who attended and supported us with ❤️