

Collaborative research with Malaysian Universities

Prof. Jin Wang

Chair of UK-MUC

Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Engineering and Technology,
Liverpool John Moores University, UK

Why collaborative research with Malaysian institutions

- Benefits to staff and research members to experience an international dimension.
- Increasing joint research opportunities.
- Increasing the number of staff who undertake international opportunities that enhance the student experience.
- Increasing international collaboration and enterprise activity with partnering institutions.
- Recruitment and learning in areas of mutual interests.
- REF (Research Excellence Framework), Malaysia Research Assessment (MyRA) and other matrix indicators.

Activities and outputs

- PhD programmes – Location-based PhD programmes and joint/dual PhD programmes.
- Networks – clusters to formulate networks in areas of mutual interest, funding to support their operations from sources such as EU.
- Sharing of the Consortium's collective experience, expertise and good practice methods in research.
- Training programmes for early career researchers and new researchers/ staff members.
- Knowledge exchange in terms of complementary interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary expertise.
- Employability and entrepreneurship training

How to maximise opportunities

1. Prioritised areas to be identified in the consortium.
2. Each institution's active participation.
3. Individual tasks to be led by each individual institution.
4. Working together between two or more UK and Malaysian institutions.
5. Measurable, tangible outcomes (e.g. agreements, staff/student exchanges, workshops, etc.).

Collaborative research programmes between LJMU and Malaysian Universities – good practices

Research networks RESET, i-WELD and PRIGeoC in engineering and technology with UTM, UNIMAP, UKM and UM.

Projects with UNIMAP, UTM, UiTM and UPT, funded by Newton Fund, British Council and Royal Academy of Engineering.

Dual PhD programme in engineering with MU.

Staff training at the PhD level for UMT.

PhD training in sports science with UiTM. A partnership with UiTM on ensuring non-Computer Science students with digital skillset for the contemporary workplace.

Partnership with UM and UTP in the establishment of the research consortium UCSI-Cheras Low Carbon Innovation Hub.

Organisation of conferences in Data Science with Malaysian universities such as UiTM.

RESET, i-WELD and PRIGeoC in engineering and technology with UTM, UNIMAP, UKM and UM

RESET - Reliability and Safety Engineering and Technology
(<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/730888>, €1,417,500) funded by EU with UKM and UTM each receiving €162k.

- 6 researchers from each Malaysian institution coming to LJMU and other European beneficiaries.

PRIGeoC - Partnership for Research In Geopolymer Concretes
(€517,500) funded by EU with UNIMAP receiving €108,000.

- 6 researchers from each Malaysian institution.

i-Weld - Integration of advanced experiments, computation and data (€506,000) funded by EU with UM receiving €110k.

- 8 researchers from the Malaysian institution coming to LJMU and other European beneficiaries.

Dual PhD programme in engineering with UM

- Dual PhD programme in Engineering with PhD completions.
- Dual awards popular for students, perceived as offering enhanced employability opportunities
 - enhanced by mobility, exchange, shared delivery.
- Due diligence approval.
- Collaborative provision panel approval.
- Doctoral Academy or postgraduate school approval.
- Legal team's approval.

Projects funded by other sources.

- LJMU led a Newton Fund-supported project of £150k, 2018-2020, Green Electronics: Interfacial Reaction of Nano-geopolymer Ceramic Reinforced SnCu Solder and Failure Analysis. UNIMAP receiving £75k from the funder.
 - Outcomes: Research exchange & research outputs.
- Safe and Sustainable Decommissioning of Offshore Structures funded by RAEng (£200k) with UKM and UTP.
 - Outcomes: research exchange, workshops, knowledge sharing, research outputs.
- PhD training in sports science and marine technology with UiTM and UPT.
 - Outcomes: joint PhD completions, research outputs, further funding applications.

Easy and complicated issues associated with research agreements between UK and Malaysia institutions

Easy

Mutual recognition.

Easy bank transfer.

Willingness of both sides.

Mutual benefit.

Complicated

Slow approval process in both sides – particularly when associated with legal issues.

Funding issues in Malaysia sides (e.g. dual PhDs).

Difficult measuring criteria in research and knowledge exchange.

Limited specific funding sources for research collaboration between the two countries.

From a collaborative research viewpoint, there are opportunities continuously becoming available from sources such

EU

Global Challenges Research Fund

Royal Society, Royal Academy of Engineering, etc.

Charities such as Leverhulme Trust and Nuffield Trust

UKRI

International organisations such as WHO and WLO.

Government agencies.

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Research collaboration is not about funding – there are more to offer – training, impact, complementary resources sharing, etc.

Thank you for your attention.