



# **14<sup>th</sup> UTM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS FORUM 2025**

DATE

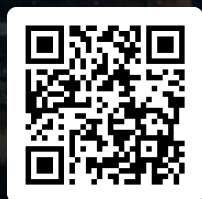
**7 – 8 October 2025**



VENUE







**Persada Johor International  
Convention Centre, Johor Bahru  
Johor, Malaysia**

**“NAVIGATING THE INTELLIGENT AGE  
FOR GLOBAL UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE”**

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7 - 8 October 2025

Persada Johor International  
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Johor, Malaysia

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*"Navigating the Intelligent Age for Global University Excellence"*



# PREFACE



## 14<sup>th</sup> UTM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS FORUM 2025

### **“Navigating the Intelligent Age for Global University Excellence”**

It is our great honour to welcome all delegates to the 14th UTM University Presidents Forum (UTM-UPF) 2025, hosted by Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) in Johor Bahru, the capital of the Malaysian state of Johor, at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula.

UTM-UPF 2025 aspires to establish a distinguished platform for the exchange of exemplary practices and the dissemination of advanced strategies aimed at catalysing the transformation of the global higher education landscape. The initiative is dedicated to fostering innovative solutions that proactively anticipate emerging trends and adeptly address the critical challenges confronting the higher education sector.

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# WELCOME MESSAGE

**Assalamualaikum wrbt.**

Salam Malaysia Madani, Salam UTM Sanjungan Bangsa  
A warm welcome from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

It is an honour and a privilege to welcome you to the **14<sup>th</sup> UTM University Presidents Forum (UTM-UPF) 2025**, one of the flagship programme under UTM Global Connect 2025. This gathering is more than a meeting of minds, it is a chance to extend kindness, share wisdom, and shape impact that reaches far beyond our own circles.

Every connection sparks change, inspiring innovation, while each collaboration carries the power to transform communities. Together, we must face the world's urgent needs with compassion, creativity, and courage.

At UTM, true engagement is not only about advancing knowledge but uplifting humanity. May this event inspire us to build better, inclusive futures.

Thank you!



**PROF. DR. MOHD SHAFRY MOHD RAHIM**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA**

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# OVERVIEW

## 14<sup>th</sup> UTM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS FORUM 2025

**“Navigating the Intelligent Age for Global University Excellence”**

The 14th UTM University Presidents Forum 2025 convenes **global university leaders** to **scrutinise and introspectively examine higher education’s diverse roles and obligations in developing nations**. This is viewed through various lenses showcased through Panel Sessions, encompassing the sub-themes. This year’s iteration of UTM-UPF2025 will present a unique platform, the Presidents’ Round Table, comprising the participation of all attending university leaders.

### UTM-UPF 2025 Sub-Themes:

- ***Elevating University Visibility: Amplifying Impact, Inspiring Excellence***
- ***Forging Innovative Research: Empowering Discovery, Shaping Future***

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM



**Keynote Address**



**Panel Session**



**Collaborative Research Excellence Programme**



**Quickfire Connect**



**UPF 2025 Presidents’ Round Table**

***“Navigating the Intelligent Age for Global University Excellence”***



# PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

## DAY 1 : 7 October 2025 (Tuesday)

*Venue: Persada Johor International Convention Centre, Johor Bahru*

Time		Agenda
8:00 AM	:	Arrival of Guests and Registration
9:00 AM	:	Opening Ceremony of UTM Global Connect
10:30 AM	:	Break & Refreshments
<b>SESSION 1: Elevating University Visibility - Amplifying Impact, Inspiring Excellence</b>		
11:00 AM	:	Keynote Address I
11:30 AM	:	Panel Session I
12:30 PM	:	Group Photo
12:35 PM	:	Exhibition (UTM NALI & INATEX)
13:00 PM	:	Lunch Break
<b>SESSION 2: Moving Forward Action Plan - Unlocking University Potential</b>		
14:00 PM	:	Keynote Address II
14:30 PM	:	Panel Session II
15:30 PM	:	Collaboration Exchange Session
15:45 PM	:	Break
16:00 PM	:	Quickfire Connect
17:45 PM	:	Welcome Reception ( <b>Dress Code: Business Casual</b> )
19:30 PM	:	End of Day 1

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# PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

## SESSION 3: Forging Innovative Research-Empowering Discovery, Shaping Future

### DAY 2 : 8 October 2025 (Wednesday)

*Venue: Persada Johor International Convention Centre, Johor Bahru*

Time		Agenda
8:30 AM	:	Registration
9:00 AM	:	Collaborative Research Excellence Programme
10:00 AM	:	Break & Refreshments
10:30 AM	:	(Continue) Collaborative Research Excellence Programme
	:	UPF2025 Presidents' Roundtable/ Summit
12:30 PM	:	Closing Session of the 14th UTM University Presidents Forum 2025
13:00 PM	:	Lunch
14:00 PM	:	Excursion to Johor Bahru City
19:00 PM	:	End of Programme

**14th UTM-UPF 2025 Website  
Scan Here!**



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# KEYNOTE ADDRESS I



## Professor Venky Shankararaman

President of The Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE)

**DAY 1** (7 October 2025)

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Professor Venky Shankararaman is the Vice Provost for Education and Professor of Information Systems at Singapore Management University. He has over 30 years of experience in digital transformation, enterprise architecture, business process management, and higher education leadership. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering from the University of Strathclyde in the United Kingdom. He has received the Public Administration Medals (Silver and Bronze), the SAP Outstanding Academic Award, and the Association for Information Systems Award for contributions to education. He is currently President of the Asia Pacific Association for International Education.

## MODERATOR



PROF. DR. SHAMSUL BIN SAHIBUDDIN

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA

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# KEYNOTE ADDRESS II

*"Artificial Intelligence Integration for the Future University:  
A Malaysian Perspective"*



**Mr. Shamsul Izhan Abdul Majid**

Head of The National Artificial Intelligence Office (NAIO)

**DAY 1** (7 October 2025)

14:00 PM – 14:30 PM

With over two decades of global experience in AI, digital transformation and business innovation, Mr. Shamsul Izhan Abdul Majid is a seasoned Chief Executive Officer and Chief Technology and Innovation Officer (CTIO) with proven impact in technology, innovation and business growth. He is recognised for his track record in driving innovative culture and outcome across diverse landscapes of private and public sectors.

Mr. Shamsul Izhan Abdul Majid has bootstrapped start-ups, driven corporate and public sector innovation having earned national and regional awards from GovInsider (SG), IDC (USA), APICTA (Malaysia) and iAwards (Australia). He is a regular keynote speaker, advisory member for various Industry Panels and a Research Masters holder in Geospatial. Mr. Shamsul Izhan Abdul Majid is passionate about creating value and impact through technology and innovation for the advancement of society and the environment.

**MODERATOR**



**PROF. TS. DR. INTAN ZAURAH BINTI MAT DARUS**

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# PANEL SESSION I

*"Elevating University Visibility- Amplifying Impact,  
Inspiring Excellence"*

**DAY 1** (7 October 2025)  
11.30 AM - 12.30 PM

**SPEAKER**



**Prof. Dr. Koichi Node**  
President of Saga University, Japan

**SPEAKER**



**Prof. Dr. Ehsan Mesbahi**  
Academic Provost, Associate Vice  
President (International),  
University of Southampton Malaysia

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# PANEL SESSION II

## *"Moving Forward Action Plan Unlocking University Potential"*

**DAY 1** (7 October 2025)

14:30 PM - 15:30 PM

### **SPEAKER**



**Prof. Dr. Nikita Anisimov**

Rector of HSE University, Russia

### **SPEAKER**



**Prof. Dr. Irwan Meilano**

Vice Rector for Academic  
and Student Affairs  
Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia

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# 14<sup>th</sup> UTM-UPF 2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## **Advisor**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Ariffin Abu Hassan

## **Programme Director**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suresh Ramakrishnan

## **Deputy Director I**

Dr. Ain Naadia Mazlan

## **Deputy Director II**

Mr. Ahmad Hilman Borhan

## **Secretary**

Mrs. Zanariah Aripan

## **Secretary II**

Mrs. D. Dahyuna Mohd Yunos

## **Promotion, Invitation & Registration**

### **Head:**

Mrs. Nurul Izzati Mohd Twa

### **Members:**

Ms. Aimi Aqilah Azman

Mrs. D. Dahyuna Mohd Yunos

Mrs. Norhayati Alwee

Mrs. Nurul Asyikin Jafri

Ms. Athirah Natasha Muhamad Afandi

## **Graphic Design, Website & Multimedia**

### **Head:**

Dr. Ahmad Fadhil Yusof

### **Members:**

Ms. Alia Hanani Ramlee

Ms. Nurul Arifah Zainudin

Ms. Syamimie Ummaira Sadenan

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# 14<sup>th</sup> UTM-UPF 2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## **Logistic, Technical & IT**

### **Head:**

Mr. Hemnaarth Tanakaran

### **Members:**

Mr. Mohamad Amyrul Fahmy Bakri

## **Publication**

### **Head:**

Dr. Ain Naadia Mazlan

### **Members:**

Mr. Muhammad Nabil Mohd Warid

## **Rapporteur**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gs. Sr Dr. Nurul Hazrina Idris

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azaliah Abu Bakar

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suhana Mohamed Sultan

## **Event Management, Protocol & Reception**

### **Floor Manager:**

Mr. Ahmad Hilman Borhan

### **Stage Manager:**

Mrs. Su Zalpha Mohamed

### **Members:**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Norahim Ibrahim

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gs. Sr Dr. Nurul Hazrina Idris

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azaliah Abu Bakar

Ms. Ain Ajeerah Ramli

Mrs. Fatimah Zarah Abdul Rahim

Mrs. Nur'Adilah Zahari



# 14<sup>th</sup> UTM-UPF 2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## **Food & Beverages**

### **Head:**

Ms. Nor Mazila Dorani

### **Members:**

Mrs. Norsiah Daud

Mrs. Maizati Mohamed Amin

## **Financial Controller**

### **Head:**

Mrs. Hanaliza Samingon

### **Members:**

Ms. Siti Sarah Nabihah Jamal

## **Accommodation**

### **Head:**

Mrs. Norshaliza Saparman

### **Members:**

Mrs. Nurul Atiqah Jamal

## **Transportation**

### **Head:**

Mrs. Fazilahton Manap

### **Members:**

Mr. Mohamad Amyrul Fahmy Bakri

Mr. Mari Surendran A/L Sandran

## **Souvenirs & Special Tasks**

### **Head:**

Mrs. D. Dahyuna Mohd Yunos

### **Members:**

Dr. Ain Naadia Mazlan



# 14<sup>th</sup> UTM-UPF 2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## **Collaboration Exchange Session**

### **Head:**

Mr. Ahmad Hilman bin Borhan

### **Members:**

Mrs. Su Zalpha Mohamed

Mrs. Norhayati Alwee

Mrs. Fatimah Zarah Abdul Rahim

Mrs. Nur 'Adilah Zahari

## **Presidents' Roundtable**

### **Head:**

Mrs. Su Zalpha Mohamed

### **Members:**

Mrs. Fatimah Zarah Abdul Rahim

Mrs. Nur 'Adilah Zahari

## **Cultural Excursion**

### **Head:**

Ms. Zetty Raihan Haji Mohd Yassin

### **Members:**

Mr. Mohamad Amyrul Fahmy Bakri

Ms. Syamimie Ummaira Sadenan





**UTM Global Connect 2025** is where collaboration meets innovation and ideas turn into impact. Bringing together universities, industries, policymakers, and communities worldwide, it serves as a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, breakthrough research, and meaningful cross-cultural dialogue. Here, tomorrow's solutions are imagined today. This year's edition features four flagship events:

**14<sup>th</sup> UTM UNIVERSITY  
PRESIDENTS FORUM  
2025**

**UPF 2025: 14TH UTM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS  
FORUM 2025**

***"Navigating the Intelligent Age for Global  
University Excellence"***

Website: <https://international.utm.my/upf/>



**INATEX 2025: 27TH INDUSTRIAL ART AND  
TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION & COMPETITION 2025**

***"Harnessing AI for a Resilient and Sustainable  
Future"***

Website: <https://inatex.utm.my/>



**NALI 2025: NEW ACADEMIA LEARNING  
INNOVATION 2025**

***"Accelerating Innovation in Teaching and  
Learning with AI"***

Website: <https://utmcdex.utm.my/nali2025/>



**D-8 NPRI: 4th D-8 Network of Pioneers for  
Research, Innovation and Commercialisation  
(D-8 NPRI) Summit 2025**

***"Driving Regional Innovation, Shaping  
Sustainable Global Solutions"***

Website: <https://international.utm.my/4th-d-8-npri-summit/>

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