

PHARMACYCONNECT

NEWSLETTER



May-August 2022

Volume 3, Issue 3

DEAN'S MESSAGE



Associate Professor Dr Mogana Sundari Rajagopal, Dean

The Education Ministry's 2020 Annual Report highlighted that the percentage of upper secondary school students who are enrolled in STEM was 47.18%, which is considerably far from the national target of 60%. If we, as higher education institutes, do not find a way to promote the young generation's interest in STEM, Malaysia would face a setback in producing new science and technology in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda of the United Nations.

The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences recently collaborated with the Ministry of Education and the National STEM Association of Malaysia in organising the Student Life Hacks TikTok Innovation Challenge, a competition encouraging high school students to create STEM based innovations.

The winning innovation came from a pair of students from the Penang Chinese Girls Private High School in the form of a device that analyses and corrects the posture of a person during workouts. The duo walked away with RM3,000 in cash and a full tuition waiver for foundation studies in UCSI. The event was also attended by the National STEM Association president and founder Prof Dato' Dr Noraini Idris who praised UCSI's efforts to instil interest in STEM among students. The competition drew participation from over 55 schools and will be an annual event for the faculty.

We were also honoured to have the attendance of two distinguished guest to the faculty, Professor Dr Philip John Marriott (Professor of Chemistry, Monash University, Australia, & Deputy Director Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science) and Professor Dr Ramesh K Goyal (Vice Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University, India. Both professors conducted highly engaging academic sessions with our students and staff.

It has been a productive and exciting 2022 for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and we look forward to sharing many more events with you in the next issues.

"If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest" – Benjamin Franklin.

Inside this issue:

- Professor Dr Philip John Marriott @ FPS
- FPS @ Tea for Thoughts
- Professor Dr Ramesh K Goyal @ FPS
- TikTok Innovation Challenge @ FPS
- MOU Signing Between UCSI UNIVERSITY and DPSRU India
- Students Corner
 - Book Review: Invisible Man
 - Clinical Lab Test Word Search
 - Fun Pharmacy Facts
- A Sneak Peek Into FPS
 - IRCPAS 2.0
 - Academic Programs @ FPS
- Upcoming Events

Editorial Team:

- Assistant Professor Dr Anand Gaurav, Editor
- Anabelle Rose Joykin, Co-Editor



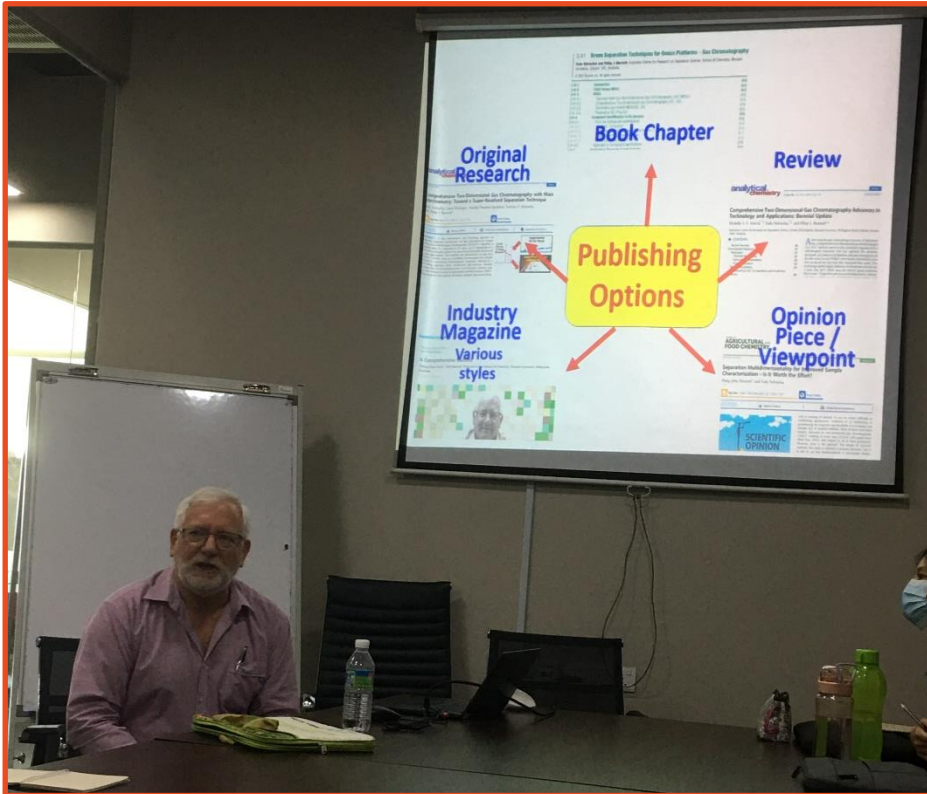
PHARMACYCONNECT newsletter is a bimonthly publication of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (FPS), UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur.



PROFESSOR DR PHILIP JOHN MARRIOTT @ FPS

Professor Dr Philip John Marriott (Professor of Chemistry, Monash University, Australia, Deputy Director Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science ACROSS and Visiting Professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UCSI University) visited UCSI University recently. Prof Philip had an engagement session with the postgraduate students of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences on 5 July 2022 at the Office of Postgraduate Studies, UCSI University.

The title of the session was “Publishing your Research – Advice to Research Students to Maximise Your Output”. Masters and doctorate level students attended the engagement session. Professor Philip shared his experience on the “Do and Don’t” in research publications. The session proved to be of immense value for the postgraduate students especially from the perspective of the importance of research publication during their postgraduate candidature.



FPS @ TEA FOR THOUGHTS

Hosted by UCSI University, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Know Your Medicine, OPS, UCSI, and RPICE.

TEA FOR THOUGHTS

Self-Medication Gone Wrong? How to Empower Safe Self-Care

Controlled medicines are regulated through the Poisons Act 1952. These medicines are categorised into Group B and Group C under the Act. Group B medicines can only be sold or supplied for treatment by a registered medical practitioner, registered dentist or veterinary officer for their patients. Sale or supply by a licensed pharmacist can only be done with a prescription. Meanwhile, Group C medicines can only be sold or supplied by a licensed pharmacist. The general public should understand the different classifications of controlled medicines and their laws. The consumption of chronic illness medicines purchased online without consultation from the pharmacist and prescription from certified medical doctors can prove to be fatal. Thus, the public should seek the professional advice of a pharmacist or a medical practitioner when dealing with any form of medication for chronic disease or common illness.

Speaker **Lim En Ni**
Chief Pharmacist | Engagement Director of Alpro Pharmacy

Date: (Friday) **26 AUG 2022** **Time:** 3.30PM – 5PM **Venue:** OPS @ Alumni Lounge, Level 10, Block 6, UCSI University KL Campus. Available via: Microsoft Teams

Lim En Ni, chief pharmacist, and engagement director of Alpro Pharmacy, delivered an invited talk during the tea for thoughts sharing session titled “Self-Medication Gone Wrong? How to Empower Safe Self-Care” held on 26 August 2022. She spoke about controlled medicines which are regulated through the Poisons Act 1952. These medicines are categorised into Group B and Group C under the Act. Group B medicines can only be sold or supplied by a registered medical practitioner, registered dentist, or veterinary officer for their patients. Meanwhile, Group C medicines can only be sold or supplied by a licensed pharmacist.

She emphasised that public should understand the classifications of controlled medicines and their laws. The consumption of chronic illness medicines purchased online without consultation from the pharmacist and prescription from certified medical doctors can prove to be fatal. Thus, the public should seek the professional advice of a pharmacist or a medical practitioner when dealing with any form of medication for chronic disease or common illness.

PROFESSOR DR RAMESH K GOYAL @ FPS

Professor Dr Ramesh K Goyal (Vice Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University, India and Distinguished Visiting Professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UCSI University) visited UCSI University during 25 June – 1 July 2022.

The second day included a talk on “Product Development to Commercialisation: A Target for A Pharmaceutical Scientist”. The highlights of the talk were:

- Changing trends in new drug discovery and regulatory challenges.
- Set up own path in drug discovery research by out of the box and innovative thinking.
- Understanding ancient or herbal knowledge in the modern way.
- Success story of Coroquil-Zn for COVID-19

Professor Goyal conducted few very interesting talks and workshops for the staff and students of UCSI University and had engagement sessions with the academic staff and postgraduate students of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Professor Goyal also organised a workshop for the students and staff of FPS, the title of the workshop was” Post COVID-19 Drug Discovery: New Challenges and Opportunities”. The highlights of the workshop were:

- The multifarious characteristics of varieties and diversities in pharmaceutical sciences.
- Opportunities in pharmacy beyond "drug discovery".
- Meeting global targets with local approach.
- Attending to local needs through global technology.

- Learning from the COVID-19 Era.
- Global Risks of viral diseases being more dangerous than other microbial diseases.
- Emergence of Drug-repurposing the leady strategy drug Covid-19 Era.
- Importance of clinical and hospital pharmacy during pandemic or endemic of such diseases.

HOLISTIC APPROACH IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES STRIVING FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

27 JUNE 2022 | 2.00PM to 3.30PM | C210, BLOCK G, UCSI UNIVERSITY

The objective of the talk will be to provide insight into the diversity associated with pharmaceutical sciences that calls for a "holistic approach" for getting application-based outcomes for industry, hospitals, and the community. It will also integrate traditional and historical approaches to drug discovery with modern, state-of-the-art technologies.

SPEAKER
PROFESSOR DR RAMESH K GOYAL
 Top 2% Scientist (Pharmacology)
 Vice Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research University, New Delhi, India
 Distinguished Visiting Professor
 Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences,
 UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Register at: <https://bit.ly/3G8E39G>

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT TO COMMERCIALISATION: A TARGET FOR A PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENTIST

28 JUNE 2022 | 2.00 PM - 3.30 PM | G608, BLOCK G, UCSI UNIVERSITY

The talk will provide strategic guidelines to the students and faculty involved in research for the discovery and development of new drugs and drug formulations from the concept to reutilization and also how to take it further through complex regulatory processes, finally to the market level for patient use.

The talk will cover the following aspects:

- Changing trends in new drug discovery and regulatory challenges
- Set up own path in drug discovery research by out-of-box and innovative thinking
- Understanding ancient or herbal knowledge in the modern way
- Success story of Coroquil-Zn for COVID-19

SPEAKER
PROFESSOR DR RAMESH K GOYAL
 Top 2% Scientist (Pharmacology)
 Vice Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research University, New Delhi, India
 Distinguished Visiting Professor,
 Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Register at: <https://bit.ly/3G8E39G>

WORKSHOP ON POST-COVID-19 DRUG DISCOVERY: NEW CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES SHAKE HANDS WITH NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

DAY 1
 28 JUNE 2022 | 9.30AM - 12.30PM | C210, BLOCK G, UCSI UNIVERSITY

DAY 2
 30 JUNE 2022 | 9.00AM - 12.00PM | G606, BLOCK G, UCSI UNIVERSITY

FEE: RM30

The workshop will be a thorough analysis of the consequences of COVID-19, its relevance to the deranged Reinforcement System, possibilities of global spread of post-covid complications, and the role of pharmaceutical sciences in new drug discovery and supportive strategies for the clinical management of post-COVID-19 complications.

The workshop will cover the following aspects:

- Learning from the COVID-19 Era
- Viral diseases pose greater global risks than other microbial diseases
- The emergence of the drug-repurposing strategy drug COVID-19 Era
- The significance of clinical and hospital pharmacy during pandemic or endemic disease outbreaks

SPEAKER
PROFESSOR DR RAMESH K GOYAL
 Top 2% Scientist (Pharmacology)
 Vice Chancellor, Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research University, New Delhi, India
 Distinguished Visiting Professor,
 Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Register at: <https://bit.ly/3G8E39G>



TIKTOK INNOVATION CHALLENGE @ FPS

UCSI University partnered with the Ministry of Education, Malaysia, to organise an innovation challenge titled “TikTok Innovation Challenge” that required contestants to devise scientific innovations to solve real-world problems. The objective was to make STEM fun.

While there were many interesting videos of innovations submitted by participants from all over Malaysia, the ones that stood out were those by Lee Shao Xuan and Tan Ming Qi, both 18. Their innovation was called “sports steward” - a device that analyses and corrects one’s posture as they work out. The duo from the Penang Chinese Girls Private High School were awarded at the award ceremony organised at UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur on 29 June 2022 with RM3,000 in cash and a full tuition waiver to continue their studies at UCSI University.

National STEM Association president and founder Prof Dato’ Dr Noraini Idris graced the occasion and mentioned that that the competition was an ideal way to generate interest in STEM-related studies and should be continued in coming years.



 <p>FIRST PRIZE RM3000 cash prize 100% tuition fee waiver* RM500 worth of goodies Certificate</p>	 <p>THIRD PRIZE RM1000 cash prize RM8,000 tuition fee waiver* RM250 worth of goodies Certificate</p>
 <p>SECOND PRIZE RM1500 cash prize RM10,000 tuition fee waiver* RM300 worth of goodies Certificate</p>	 <p>CONSOLATION PRIZE (19) RM2,000 tuition fee waiver* RM150 worth of goodies Certificate</p>

MOU SIGNING BETWEEN UCSI UNIVESITY AND DPSRU INDIA

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UCSI University and Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University (DPSRU), India was signed on 29 June 2022 at UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur campus.

The MOU is aimed at jointly organising conferences, symposia, and talks, joint research projects and publications in fields of mutual interest, facilitation, and encouragement of the exchange of students through research attachments, summer programmes and visitations between the Parties.

The activities under the MOU have been kickstarted with DPSRU becoming the co-host in upcoming International Research Conference on Pharmaceutical and Allied Sciences (IRCPAS) 2.0 in March 2023.





STUDENTS CORNER

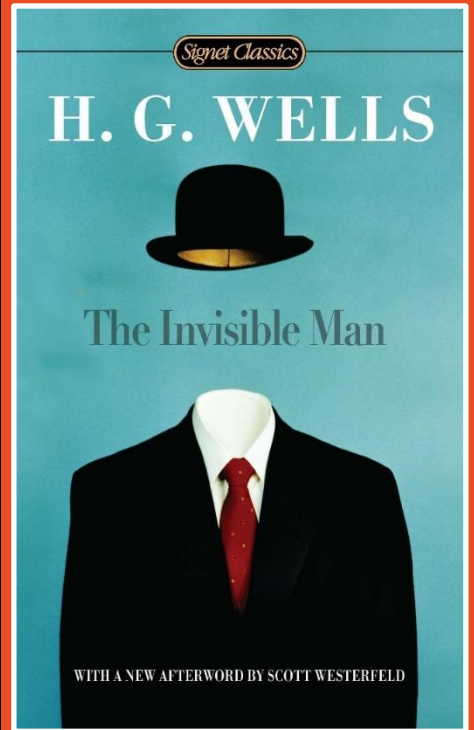
BOOK REVIEW: INVISIBLE MAN

WRITTEN BY PHANG JIE SHI

Science fiction classic "The Invisible Man" by H.G. Wells was published in 1897. The same year it was published, the novella was first serialised in Pearson's Weekly. The story is about Scientist Griffin focuses exclusively on the study of optics. He learns while conducting research that he can alter the body's refractive index so that it absorbs all light and does not reflect any, rendering him invisible. He conducts his first experiment on himself, but he is unable to reverse the process. Griffin made the decision to kill his friend after he betrayed him, starting his own "reign of terror." By studying how science affects society and individuals, Wells investigates the tension between humanity and science. Does society benefit or suffer from advances in science and technology? How does free will be affected? Griffin's invisibility is a representation of technological advancement. Griffin's wickedness or lack of humanity is seen in how he uses his invisibility. Wells also asks whether Griffin was bad before becoming invisible or whether his invisibility contributed to his evil nature.

In other words, are the results of scientific advancement inevitable or may people choose to ignore them? Humanity or science, which is more powerful? The book demonstrates how every scientific discovery and advancement, even invisibility, has some sort of social consequence. In my opinion, even while science is a blessing, when it is applied improperly, it may become a curse for humanity. Griffin's fascination with optics and light is initially admirable and can be utilised for the benefit of humanity, but it can also be used for evil. Without a doubt, his invisibility is a fantastic accomplishment. He uses it, nevertheless, to commit burglaries and hurt other people. When he attends his father's burial without experiencing the sorrow of loss, his love of science robs him of humanity. In the end, the mob turns on him and kills him by crushing him.

In conclusion, this book is quite fascinating and is suggested for anyone interested in the scientific field and hoping to use research to better the world.



FUN PHARMACY FACTS

- Benjamin Franklin is considered the founding father of pharmacy. Before he discovered electricity, Benjamin Franklin dispensed medicine as a pharmacist. He worked as a clerk in a local mercantile store, where he dispensed medicines, herbs and other cures.
- Before landing his job as a vice-president, Humphrey dropped out of school to help his father run a drug store. He went on to earn his pharmacy license and assisted his father at the pharmacy, filling prescription medications for 4 years.
- The Australian actor, Chris Hemsworth who played of Thor in Avengers: Age of Ultron had been working in a pharmacy before he got famous. One of his tasks at the drugstore was to sterilize breast pumps after women returned them to the pharmacy.

CLINICAL LAB TEST WORD SEARCH

M A Q Y C F C R Q O C O G C M E M
 F O T S D A F R J I K Z E R S P U
 T U W A D M L N E L G U Q A G E I
 C Y S T A T I N C A F B R R T N D
 G E K M V B Y O R R T E N Y E P O
 V T T E L E T A L P F I C T O T S
 S A K A S B S F B S N O N T T I U
 I H E H X E T N N Q L I A I X P P
 O P M P L Y I A T U B S F Q N A A
 X S F A X M R O C O S M D I N E U
 A O Y E U T B I L I R U B I N R R
 L H I B O F T G U S C O N S D U W
 B P L N Q E O M I L L O C O T P A
 L A I O R M T R Z G P R K H K G S
 G M Q L E Q S Y O O T A J G K R K
 A R F A R U E Y R D B N R B I C W
 Y X H G K G M T F E A Z L H N T T

- Myoglobin
- Troponin
- Phosphate
- Potassium
- Sodium
- Urea
- Creatinine
- aPTT
- Reticulocyte
- Platelet
- Haemoglobin
- INR
- Aminotransferase
- Bilirubin
- Albumin

A SNEAK PEEK INTO FPS

FPS offers both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes with the emphasis on serving the community.

Doctoral Programme

- Doctor of Philosophy (Pharmaceutical Sciences)

Masters Programmes

- MSc Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- MSc Pharmaceutical Technology
- Master of Clinical Pharmacy Practice
- MSc (Pharmaceutical Sciences)

Degree Programmes

- Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)
- Bachelor of Formulation Science (Hons)

Foundation Programme

- Foundation in Science (Pharmacy)

UPCOMING EVENTS @ FPS

- World Pharmacists Day and Book Prize awards on 29 September 2022 @ GG07
- Journal Club Sharing Session titled "Electrospun Alpha-mangostin Loaded Chitosan-based Nanofiber for Wound Healing Activity in Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetic Rat Model" by Lim Chiew Vien on 22 September 2022

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON PHARMACEUTICAL AND ALLIED SCIENCES 2.0 (IRCPAS 2.0)

Theme: 21st Century Frontiers: Paradigm Shift in Research and Innovation

Pre-conference Workshop
10 March 2023

Conference
11 - 12 March 2023

Venue: Grand Ballroom, Block E, UCSI University Kuala Lumpur Campus

Full paper will be published in SCOPUS Indexed Journal

SPEAKERS



Prof. Dr. Ramesh K Goyal
Vice-Chancellor,
Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research University,
New Delhi, India
Top 2% Scientist (Pharmacy & Pharmacology)



Prof. Dr. Wong Tin Wui
Founder and Head,
Non-Destructive Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Research Centre,
Smart Manufacturing Research Institute,
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Top 2% Scientist (Pharmacy & Pharmacology)



Distinguished Prof. Dr. Phang Siew Moi, FASc
Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
Research & Postgraduate Studies,
UCSI University
Top 2% Scientist (Marine Biology and Hydrobiology)



Prof. Dr. Shamala Devi A/P K.C. Sekaran, FASc, FRCPATH (UK)
Professor of Microbiology,
Deputy Dean,
Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences,
UCSI University



Prof. Dr. Mohd Cairul Iqbal Bin Mohd Amin
Professor of Pharmaceutics,
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Council Member of Academy Professor
Malaysia
Top 2% Scientist (Pharmacy & Pharmacology)



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Christoph Wiert
Universiti Malaysia Sabah
Top 2% Scientist (Medical & Biomedical Chemistry)



Prof. Dr. Veerantoot Nissapatorn
World Union for Herbal Drug Discovery (WUHD),
School of Allied Health Sciences,
Walailak University, Thailand
Top 2% Scientist (Tropical Medicine)



Prof. Dr. Habibah A. Wahab
Dean, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences,
Universiti Sains Malaysia



Dr. Yeoh Peng Nam
Past Professor & Head of Pharmacology,
Founding Head of Pharmacy (UM),
Former Dean of (IMU & UCSI University)



Prof. Dr. Syed Azhar Syed Sulaiman
Founder,
World Halal Pharmaceutical, Cosmetic & Natural Product Association,
Senior Professor in Clinical Pharmacy,
School of Pharmaceutical Sciences,
Universiti Sains Malaysia



Prof. Dr. Vidhu Aeri
Professor and Dean,
School of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (SPER),
Jamia Hamdard University, India



Dr. Subbu Apparsundaram
ODD & ODD at Cellix Bioscience,
INC, Newark, New Jersey, US

REGISTRATION

	Early bird		Normal		Online	
	RM*	USD**	RM*	USD**	RM*	USD**
Preconference workshop I	250	60	250	60	220	50
Preconference workshop II	250	60	250	60	220	50
Conference						
Student ***	360	85	400	95	280	65
Academic /Industrial participant ***	600	140	700	160	400	95
Gala dinner	120	30	120	30	NA	NA

* For Local Participants **For International Participants *** Gala dinner excluded

Abstract submission 31 December 2022 Early bird registration 31 December 2022

Organised by:  

Co-host:     

Supported by:    

Like and follow us on   

UCSI.Pharmacy

Contact us: ☎ +60 17-689 4547 ✉ ircpas@ucsiuniversity.edu.my

We are located at:
Level 10, Block G, UCSI University Kuala Lumpur Campus
No. 1, Jalan Menara Gading,
UCSI Heights (Taman Connaught), Cheras
56000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Phone: (+603) 9101 8880
Fax: (+603) 9102 2614

Contributors:

- Anabelle Rose Joykin
- Assistant Professor Dr Muhammad Junaid Farrukh
- Associate Professor Dr Anand Gaurav
- Assistant Professor Dr Chew Yik Ling
- Phang Jie Shi

Page | 6