

OPENING CEREMONY SPEECH

Y.BHG. PROF. DATUK WIRA DR. RAHA BINTI ABDUL RAHIM

VICE CHANCELLOR

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INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL DIALOGUE 2020 (IRID20)

“Bridging University and Industries Through Research.”

11.00-11.30 AM

17<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020, MELAKA

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Bismillah Hirrahman Nirrahim

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Salam Sejahtera

It is with great pleasure I welcome all the speakers, participants and guests to the INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL DIALOGUE or IRID 2020.

The Advanced Manufacturing Centre or AMC, has been organizing the biennial IRID event since 2016 in association with the Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering. This year, with a proven track record in promoting research publication and income generation, Centre of Smart System and Innovative Design also known as CoSSID, one of UTeM’s Centers of Excellence is given the opportunity to organize IRID 2020 in collaboration with the Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing Centre.

This research dialogue is a testimony of a successful collaborative effort and commitment between two research groups – the academia and industrial partners that share similar aspirations and interests in research activities. The effort in organizing IRID 2020 is nothing less than an embodiment towards achieving our noble aim.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Retaining the same theme of - **“Bridging University and Industries Through Research”**, it is nothing short but to emphasize the symbiotic relationship between the university and industry players in Malaysia towards the betterment of humankind as well as to enhance innovation through knowledge exchange. Such partnerships not only effectuate ground-breaking research and innovation but also provide solutions to complex problems and drives economic growth.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, for the first time, IRID 2020 is organized virtually. This event is a perfect platform for researchers, engineers, and post-graduate students, especially in the field of engineering and technology, to present their research findings, to establish mutual knowledge transfers and to extend strategic networking. IRID 2020 has also been designed to encourage active participation from industry and act as a platform for open dialogues between university-industry practitioners - to share and discuss ideas, findings and research discoveries in various areas of engineering especially in the manufacturing engineering which is in line with UTeM’s niche areas.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

This year's industrial forum's theme is **“Advancing future manufacturing through university-industry smart partnership”** aims at accentuating the collaborative relationship in the manufacturing area towards the development of the country. I do hope that the output of this forum will accord positive and productive impacts to all parties besides gearing us to advance in our innovation ventures.

I have been informed that IRID 2020 has received overwhelming responses, with more than 100 submissions from diverse engineering fields. After a thorough peer-review process, 89 papers are accepted for publication. Out of these, six are industrial-based papers which resulted from research collaborations between academia and industry partners.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Through this research-intensive event, I truly hope that new ideas within the realm of the manufacturing engineering eco-system will materialise. I encourage you to have an open and constructive dialogue. I would like to emphasize that we need to think and act fast in this rapidly evolving manufacturing industry. There is no room for complacency – we have to keep abreast with the latest development or we will fall behind.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

With the enthusiasm and support from all the presenters, participants, and the commendable effort of the organizing committee, I am fully confident that IRID 2020 will culminate into another fruitful endeavour. I take this opportunity to

wish all participants a successful presentation, discussion and a pleasant meeting of minds.

May this event be an insightful and highly informative experience for all and we hope to see you again in future conferences organized by Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka.

On that note and with the lafaz “Bismillah hirrahmaa nirrahiim”, I hereby declare the INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL DIALOGUE- IRID 2020 officially opened.

Thank you. *Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and salam sejahtera.*