

Date : 26 July 2018  
Title : Varsities ink deal to share expertise  
Publication : The Star  
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STARMETRO, THURSDAY 26 JULY 2018

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# Varsities ink deal to share expertise

## MoU to strengthen ties in advancement of intelligent space system research

UNIVERSITI Tenaga Nasional (Uniten), a wholly owned subsidiary of Tenaga Nasional Berhad and Nakasuka Laboratory, and the University of Tokyo's Aeronautics and Astronautics Department signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen collaboration between both institutions.

Present on behalf of Uniten was vice-chancellor Datuk Prof Dr Kamal Nasharuddin Mustapha while University of Tokyo was represented by Intelligent Space Systems Laboratory's (ISL) Prof Sinichi Nakasuka.

Witnesses at the signing ceremony were Uniten's Institute of Energy Infrastructure (IEI) director Dr Rohayu Che Omar and Uniten College of Graduate Studies dean Datuk Prof Dr Norashidah Md Din.

The MoU also serves to enhance activities and issues of common interest at both universities, further developing partnerships in the advancement of intelligent space system.

The initiative, led by the intelligent network research group from IEI Uniten, is part of the university's initiatives to become the leading higher learning institution focusing on nano-satellite intelligent system and a globally competitive, energy-focused university by 2025.

Besides sharing expertise, both institutions will work together on the promotion and organisation of workshops, conferences and training seminars, development of nano satellite, and the dissemination of activities as well as data transferring demonstration through the MoU.

"This memorandum is a valid continuation of the relationship that IICE Uniten and University of Tokyo developed years ago.

"It is an important step forward because we now have a structured framework to further promote our interaction and achieve our common goals through joint projects and activities," said Prof Kamal Nasharuddin.

Prof Nakasuka also held a sharing session on university satellite challenges to create a paradigm of space development and utilisation.

"We transmitted our first data from Uniten's administration building rooftop to Tricom-1R a.k.a. Tasuki nano-satellite at 4.45pm until 4.57pm.

"Our counterpart in University of Tokyo

received it through the same satellite at 5.20pm (Malaysian time)," Prof Nakasuka said, proving that the successful data transmission through their nano-satellite despite the geographical location.

For the next mission, the research team will do more testing using transmitters to transmit data from site to the ground station through nano-satellite.



Nakasuka (second from left) exchanging documents with Kamal Nasharuddin after the signing of the memorandum of understanding.