RESEARCH ACCULTURATION GRANT SCHEME (RAGS)

BY: AHMAD SAIFUDIN MOHD KAMEL

Research Acculturation Grant Scheme (RAGS) is a fund to promote research acculturation among young researchers in non-RU public institutes of higher learning (IPTAs). It will serve as a basis to build up research performance so they can be equally competitive at the national and international levels.

The fund is opened to academic staff (lecturers) of non-RU IPTAs with not more than five years experience as an academician and of Grade 52 and below.

For this year, the Higher Education Ministry (KPT) has set aside a sum of RM1.1 million for RAGS for UMP. For the first round, the sum is distributed based on FRGS grant application accomplishment for 2011 and 2012. This will show the university's ability and determination to conduct research.

The evaluation process will be carried out by a technical committee, research committee, or equivalent, at the university. The technical committee must have at least one RAGS panel member appointed by KPT.

The RAGS fund will follow the current FRGS guidelines – fundamental research definition, research area, application method, evaluation criteria, monitoring works and research outcome. For this year, the list of recipients in UMP is as below.

NO.	PROJECT LEADER	TITLE	FACULTY
1	GAANTY PRAGAS A/L MANIAM	Oil-Laden Decanter Clay as an Oil Source for in situ Preparation of Renewable Biodiesel (Methyl Esters)	Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology
2	FARADILA NAIM	An Improved Vector Evaluated Particle Swarm Optimization Algorithm by Incorporating a Non-Dominated Solution for Multi-Objective Optimization Problems	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
3	MOHD ZAIDI BIN MOHD TUMARI	A Multi-Leader Concept in Multi-Objective Particle Swarm Optimization	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
4	MOHD FALFAZLI BIIN MAT JUSOH	A Study on the Contribution of Nearest-Neighbour Thermodynamic Parameters to the DNA Sequences Generated by Ant Colony System (ACS) Algorithm	Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology
5	MOHD FAZLI BIN FARIDA ASRAS	Simultaneous Sacharification and Fermentation of Sawdust Enthanol using Consolidated Bioprocessing by Trichoderma Ressei	Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology
6	MIOR AHMAD KHUSHAIRI BIN MOHD ZAHARI	Enhanced Biosugar Recovery from Oil Palm Frond Juice for the Production of Value-Added Products	Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering
7	MOHAMAD ASHRY BIN JUSOH	Fundamental Research and Finite Element Modelling of Microwave Sensor Embedded With Metamaterial	Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology
8	AZIM BIN MOHD ARSHAD	Nano Particle's Heat Transfer Characteristics in Refrigeration and Automotive Air Conditioning Systems for Reduction of Energy Consumption	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
9	LUQMAN HAKIM BIN AHMAD SHAH	Mechanical and Metallurgical Characterization of Friction Stir Welding Joints of Aluminium and Steel Alloys	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
10	MUHAMMAD HATIFI BIN HJ MANSOR	Leaks Detection and Locks in Water Distribution Systems Based on Pressure Transients Analysis	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
11	MUHAMMAD IKRAM BN MOHD RASHID	New Design of High Efficiency LED Lighting System	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
12	WAN HASBULLAH BIN MOHD ISA	Parametric Study of Coupled Vibration Based Energy Harvesting systems for Wireless Sensor Networks in Automotive Kinetics Tests	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
13	SURIATI BINTI GHAZALI	Synthesis and Characterization of Silver Nanoparticle-filled Epoxy Composites prepared via Aqueous to Organic Transfer Technique	Faculty of Electricals & Electronics Engineering
14	NORKHONISAH BT DAUD	Local Inhibitor for Wax Deposition in the Pipeline System by Using Molecular Modelling Approaches	Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering
15	JUNAIDI BIN ZAKARIA	Examining of Multiple Mode Chromatography Interaction for Protein Separation using Mixed Membrane Concept	Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering
16	MOHD NAJIB BIN RAZALI	Kinetics and Isotherm on Adsorption Treatment of Monoethanolamine (MEA) Wastewater	Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering
17	ROSYATI BT HAMID	A New Robust Object Tracking Algorithm using sparse Approximation Method	Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering
18	ABDUL ADAM BIN ABDULLAH	Analysis of Tire Derived Fuel Spray and Combustion Characteristics Inside Optical Accessible Chamber by Using Shclieren Photography Technique	Automotive Engineering Center
19	MOHD RIDZUAN BIN DARUN	The Typology of Working Capital Management Practices: Validation of a Conceptual Framework	Faculty of Technology
20	LEE CHIN MEI	Integrated Metatranscriptomic and Metagenomic Analyses for Bio Prospecting of Novel Biocatalyst Genes from the Rumen of Cattle	Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology
21	MOHD HAIRUL BIN AB. RAHIM	Identification, Isolation, and Characterization of Potential Genes Related to Medicinal Properties of Strobilanthes Crispus	Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology