

## Joint Supervision at Tsukuba University

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### Adaptation to Japanese Working Style (Atiqqoh Binti Apandi)

Konnichiwa! It has been about 2 months since four of us entered Utsumi Sensei Laboratory for Joint Supervision Program between MJIIT, UTM and Tsukuba University. We have learnt several things and techniques from Utsumi Sensei and our lab mates. But first and foremost, we have been introduced to “Senpai-Kohai” or senior-junior system. While we are the juniors of Utsumi Sensei’s Lab, but our lab mates are the seniors. They already distributed a task among them to teach us the basic techniques that we must practice in the laboratory. For example, Odano-kun teach us how to use pipette, Eto-kun demonstrate how to manage the waste, Hashimoto-chan assist us on sterilize waste containing bacteria and Oyama-kun teach us how to register every chemical which we used daily in CRIS websites so that Tsukuba University will know the amount of chemical our lab had already used.

Every Thursday we have seminar where three of our lab mate including four of us present our progress and finding with the whole lab members. So that we became a team to help each other if any of the lab mates facing problem with their research by giving out suggestions. After the seminar, we usually clean out the lab, pantry and study rooms together whereas the Malaysian style is different because the pantry and study rooms will be cleaned by the hired cleaner. Here they also didn’t have a laboratory assistant because all the lab works such as setting up the laboratory or even buying the chemicals, were all done by the research/postgraduate students.



#### PHOTOS

LEFT: Hashimoto explaining how to use GC-MS to Atiqqoh in Analysis Centre

RIGHT: From left, Ezzah, Syahirah, Atiqqoh, Prof. Datin. Dr. Zuriati, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Motoo Utsumi, Farhana, Nisa in front of our laboratory building during Prof Zuriati short visit.