

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK

*Press Release
Kenyataan media*



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Social Work Practitioners and Educators Gathered in Universiti Malaysia Sarawak for Social Work Symposium Sarawak 2023

KOTA SAMARAHAN, 8th June 2023: In conjunction with World Social Work Day (WSWD) 2023, the Social Work Programme from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) organised Social Work Symposium Sarawak 2023. This year's theme was Respecting Diversity Through Joint Social Action. The symposium was held on 8 June 2023 and was in collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development (KPWK) as well as the Malaysian Association of Social Workers. The symposium was officiated by the FSSH Dean, Professor Dr Neilson Ilan Mersat.

The symposium chairperson Dr Athirah Azhar, said that the aim is to provide a knowledge-sharing platform for social-work educators and practitioners. The keynote speaker, Professor Dr Azlinda Azman, the President of Malaysian Association of Social Workers spoke about Building Resilient Social Work Profession in Malaysia. Besides, there were three main themes discussed and highlighted during the symposium. The themes are Social Work Practice With Disadvantaged and Marginalised Group, Cultural Competence and Ethnic-Sensitive Practice in Social Work; and, Social Work Practice and Future Directions of Social Work.

Speakers that shared in the symposium are Madam Cindy Biding from Organization from Addiction Prevention Treatment & Rehabilitation (OAPTAR); Mr Hallan Hashim from Pertubuhan Inspirasi Miri @ Uplift Project, Ms Joan Sim Jo Jo from Sarawak Society for the Deaf, Ms Boon Nyuk Phin from Methodist Pillai Institute, Dr Zufar Yadi Brendan Abdullah from Ministry of Women, Childhood and Community Well-being Development; and Assoc. Prof. Dr Mohd Suhaimi Mohamad from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. Three moderators moderated the session Dr Faizah bt Haji Mas'ud and Dr Dolly Paul Carlo from UNIMAS; and Mr Adam Anak Abu from KPWK.

	<p>The one-day symposium had attracted 90 attendees consisting of officers from Social Development Council, Sarawak Welfare Department, Resident Office, District Office, Non-governmental Organisation as well as students.</p>
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