

Dear Dato'/Prof/Assoc. Prof/Dr/Sir/Madam/Miss,

## **YPASM SMART PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE FOR POLAR RESEARCH (2019)**

The International and Private Research Grants Secretariat of RMC-IRMI, UiTM is pleased to announce the opening of the Yayasan Penyelidikan Antartika Sultan Mizan (YPASM) Smart Partnership Initiative Fund for Polar Research 2019.

YPASM Smart Partnership Initiative is a strategic partnership between YPASM and eight Malaysian universities including UiTM, UKM, UM, IMU, UMS, USM, UPM and UMT to encourage local researchers to undertake research in the Antarctic, Arctic and the Southern Oceans regions as well as analytical research at Malaysian institutions.

Participation of UiTM in this initiative provides us the privilege of applying and possibly securing any but at least one of the following three research and support programs for the current opening:

### **1. YPASM Research Grant**

**Dateline: March 31, 2019 (Sunday)**

YPASM Research Grant provides fund for the purpose of scientific research, capacity building or joint fieldwork in the polar region or in established polar laboratories. The grant will partially support the cost of:

- (a) scientific research in polar sciences,
- (b) development of local expertise and human capital in polar research, and
- (c) formulation and promotion of good governance and policies.

#### ***Research areas include:***

Biology | Ecology | Atmospheric Science | Earth and Ocean Sciences | Astronomy | Astrophysics and policy

#### ***Applicant eligibility***

- (i) **Must possess a PhD** in any field of Science and Technology, and
- (ii) Must have at least three (3) years of experience in field(s) related to the proposed project

Project must involve a minimum of two (2) local or international institutions, clearly stating the respective scope of work of each collaborator.

#### ***Magnitude / top duration***

RM150,000 / 36 months

#### ***Web link:***

<http://www.ypasm.my/index.php/programme-and-activities/polar-research-grants-antarctica-and-arctic>

### **2. Fellowship Scheme**

**Dateline March 31, 2019 (Sunday)**

YPASM Fellowship Scheme provides fellowship opportunities specifically for the young Malaysian scientists to pursue their scientific research interests in Polar Science. The main aim of this scheme is to facilitate the professional development and training of early career scientists in Polar Regions research.

This fellowship allows researchers to undertake short-term visit and pursue scientific research at any major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes in or operated by Scientific Committee on

Antarctic Research (SCAR) member countries other than Malaysia, so as to become acquainted with recent advances in research and/or to develop long-term scientific links and partnerships.

**Research areas include:**

Biology | Ecology | Geology | Oceanography | Glaciology | Atmospheric Sciences

**Applicant eligibility**

- (i) **PhD student, or PhD holders within five (5) years of graduation** as of March 2019, and
- (ii) **Should not be more than 40 years old** at the time of application and a **Malaysian citizen**

**Magnitude / top duration**

RM50,000 / 12 months

**Web link:**

<http://www.ypasm.my/index.php/programme-and-activities/ypasm-fellowship-scheme>

### **3. Berth Support to British Antarctic**

YPASM is introducing Berth Support to Antarctica to encourage Malaysian researchers to conduct their research activities in Antarctica through a MoU signed between YPASM and British Antarctic Survey (BAS) over the period 2019-2024 and through collaboration Malaysian researchers established with any SCAR Member Countries.

YPASM seeks for application from Malaysian researchers to undertake field work at BAS Research Stations (Signy or Rothera), or any of their collaborator's research stations in Antarctica for the 2019/2020 Antarctic summer season.

The application is ONLY open to all Malaysian researchers from universities participating in the YPASM Smart Partnership Initiative, namely Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Universiti Malaya (UM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), International Medical University (IMU) and Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT).

**a) Berth Support through British Antarctic Survey (BAS)**

This is a joint collaborative project formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding between YPASM and the British Antarctic Survey (BAS), United Kingdom for five-year period.

**BAS invited Malaysian scientists to visit BAS research stations at Signy and Rothera in Antarctica.** BAS and Malaysian researchers will work together to identify and mutually agree on collaborative projects that support and fit into or are complementary to BAS Research Program.

**Financial offer:**

Access for two (2) scientists to **BAS research stations at Signy and Rothera will be made available in the current opening.** YPASM will make an annual contribution of **£26,825 to BAS** for each Malaysian scientist visiting BAS stations during the Antarctic summer season.

The works of the researchers would be based on activities at the stations and day trips from the stations. Any activities extending beyond this would require a separate financial contribution by the researcher. Other expenses such as airfare from KL to the UK, and the Falkland Islands and/or Punta Arenas, subsistence expenses, freight costs and rental of polar clothing for field use will be borne by the applicants and/or their host institutions.

### How to Apply:

➤ **Discuss project idea with BAS and submit BAS Pre-Award OSPQ.**

Prospective researchers to discuss initial idea with potential BAS Co-Investigator. You may find them here, <https://www.bas.ac.uk/people>

- **Deadline: 19 December 2018**

➤ **Submit Project Proposal to YPASM.**

- LoU from BAS Co-Investigator(s)
- Approved Pre-Award OSPQ
- Project Objectives
- Project Funding

- **Deadline: 31 January 2019**

➤ **Complete BAS Post-Award OSPQ.**

Applicants with Prioritised Project to complete Post-Award OSPQ with BAS Co-Investigator support.

- **Deadline: 31 March 2019**

### b) Berth Support through SCAR Member Countries

- (i) Applicant must already have identified collaborator(s) and having research projects with secured placement in collaborator's research station in Antarctica.
- (ii) Collaborator(s) can be any institution from any SCAR Member Countries.
- (iii) Field work must be committed during 2019/2020 Antarctic summer season only.
- (iv) YPASM will fund up to RM55,000.00 for cost of field work including following categories only;
  - Return economy-class airfare from Kuala Lumpur to the collaborator's country and/or any departure points to Antarctica;
  - Subsistence expenses;
  - Freight costs; and
  - Rental of polar clothing for field use.

Maximum Quantum: RM55,000.00

### How to Apply:

- Identify collaborator from any SCAR Member Countries and secure your placement.

**Deadline: 31 March 2019**

Prospective researchers may identify potential collaborator and discuss initial idea. You may contact [intan@ypasm.my](mailto:intan@ypasm.my) or [fardy@ypasm.my](mailto:fardy@ypasm.my) should you need help with this. Please make sure you can secure your placement in the Antarctic research station during 2019/2020 Antarctic summer season.

Applicants should complete and submit the following documents in PDF format:

- Application Form
- Project Proposal with detailed budget;
- Cover Note and Acceptance Letter– Collaborator's Agreement to host the applicant in Antarctica; and
- CV of applicant

### Web link

<http://www.ypasm.my/index.php/programme-and-activities/berth-support-to-antarctic>

**Submission method:**

Email all your application materials to Pn. Intan (Executive), Sultan Mizan Antarctic Research Foundation, YPASM at [intan@ypasm.my](mailto:intan@ypasm.my) (03 – 2691 0651) and En Fardy bin Muhammad Ibrahim (Executive) [fardy@ypasm.my](mailto:fardy@ypasm.my) and [faiz@ypasm.my](mailto:faiz@ypasm.my) and **must be COPIED** to Pn. Amalia Yasmin (RMC-IRMI, UiTM Shah Alam) at [amalia0994@salam.uitm.edu.my](mailto:amalia0994@salam.uitm.edu.my) / [sekretariatincoe@gmail.com](mailto:sekretariatincoe@gmail.com) for record purposes.

Please feel free to forward this email to colleagues and fellow researchers who may benefit from this information.

Thank you.

Best regards,

**International and Private Research Grants Secretariat**  
Research Management Centre (RMC),  
Institute Research Management and Innovation (IRMI),  
Universiti Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam