



PRESS RELEASE

On 10 October 2015 the Brunei Association of Japan Alumni (BAJA) had a sharing session on the Japanese Government MEXT Scholarship conducted by former scholarship recipients, Najmina Latif and Rabi'atul Abu Bakar. Najmina completed an Undergraduate Degree Program at Kobe University in 2010. Rabi'atul completed her Graduate Degree Program at Saitama University in 2014. Both are also UBD Alumni.

The event was organised by the Office of Alumni Relations and Advancement (OARA) and Centre for Networking, Employment, Career and Training (CoNECT) of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD). It was held at the Inspiring Hall, Student Centre in UBD.

The Guest of Honor at the event was Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Professor David Koh Soo Quee. Also in attendance was Ms. Yuki Iida, Second Secretary from the Embassy of Japan, Dr Chin Wei Keh, the President of BAJA as well as Mr. Lim Kok Shien, the Deputy Director of OARA.

Kicking off the event was a presentation by a former recipient of UBD Graduate Research Scholarship, Dk Mashdalina Pg Hj Matahir. She spoke of her journey after completing her undergraduate degree where she first took on a research assistant position at UBD before continuing on to do her MSc. in Applied Physics. Dk Mashdalina is the first ever recipient of the UBD Graduate Research Scholarship.

BAJA's session was themed "Graduate Studies Scholarship to Japan".

Topics discussed during the session included lifestyle challenges such as how and where to go about finding halal food and halal restaurants in Japan. BAJA also shared some advice pursuing a research degree in a foreign language and context. The session was welcomed with great interest from the attendees which consisted of UBD students as well as parents of prospective students.

Applications for Japanese Government MEXT Scholarship are generally open between May and June each year. Successful applicants are sent to commence their program in Japan in April the next year.

Prospective scholarship applicants as well as members of the public who are interested to further studies in Japan are encouraged to contact BAJA for any questions. Any further information on BAJA can be obtained on the official website: www.baja.org.bn or through email at contact@baja.org.bn

Date: 13 October 2015

[Please see photos attached.]

No. 1 The Guests of Honor and speakers sharing a light moment before the session. From left to right, clockwise: Mr Lim Kok Shien (Deputy Director of OARA), Professor David Koh Soo Quee (Asst. Vice Chancellor of UBD), Ms Yuki Iida (Second Secretary of Embassy of Japan), Najmina Latif (BAJA) and Rabi'atul Abu Bakar (BAJA)



No. 2 Photo of Rabi'atul Abu Bakar sharing her experience of studying in Japan.



No. 3 Photo of the speakers panel during the question and answer session. From left to right: Rabi'atul Abu Bakar (BAJA), Najmina Latif (BAJA) and Dk Mashdalina Pg Hj Matahir (UBD Alumni)

