

APU GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 | July 2026 – September 2026



A · P · U
ASIA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION



**BEST PRIVATE
UNIVERSITY**
PEEA 2026



**BEST AI
UNIVERSITY**
PEEA 2026



QS WORLD UNIVERSITY
RANKINGS 2027
#528
TOP 2% WORLDWIDE



**THE SUSTAINABILITY
IMPACT RATINGS 2026**
401–600 BAND

RESEARCH FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

PEOPLE | IDEAS | PARTNERSHIPS
REAL-WORLD IMPACT

We are pleased to share the latest APU Global Research Newsletter, featuring recent research achievements, funded projects, strategic collaborations, innovation and high-impact publications across the APU research community.

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AI Research & Innovation



Regional Research Connections



Research Funding



Research Capacity Building



Global Partnerships



Research Excellence



Publishing Opportunities



Partner With Us

FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



"Welcome to the APU Global Research Newsletter, showcasing how our community advances innovation, strengthens international partnerships and delivers real-world impact. We look forward to partnering with you in meaningful ways ahead." ~ Prof. Ho Chin Kuan

EDITORIAL TEAM

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GLOBAL RESEARCH REACH

APU Research Network Spans More Than Half the World's Countries



APU's International Research Network now extends across over 100 countries, reflecting its expanding global research presence and scholarly influence. This remarkable reach strengthens opportunities for knowledge exchange, joint publications and international partnerships, while inviting universities, researchers and institutions worldwide to explore new avenues for meaningful research collaboration.

[EXPLORE COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES →](#)

AI RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Malaysia's First NVIDIA DGX Spark™ AI Supercomputing Lab



Malaysia's first AI Supercomputing Lab powered by NVIDIA DGX Spark™ has been launched at APU. Equipped with 20 DGX Spark systems, the facility gives students, academics and researchers access to advanced computing for generative AI, machine learning, data science and intelligent engineering, with support for AI models of up to 200 billion parameters.

[20 DGX Spark Systems | Up to 200B-Parameter AI Models | READ MORE →](#)

REGIONAL RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

AGRS 2026 Strengthens Regional Research Connections



Asia Graduate Research Summit (AGRS) 2026 brought together 100 participants from 10 Asian countries, representing approximately 30 universities and organisations. The two-day summit connected graduate researchers, academics, journal editors and research leaders through research dialogues, postgraduate colloquia, masterclasses, publishing discussions and networking. This strengthens APU's role as a regional platform for research exchange and collaboration.

[100 Participants](#) | [10 Countries](#) | [~30 Institutions](#) | [READ MORE](#) →

RESEARCH FUNDING

Researchers Secure RM399,720 in Research Grants

Congratulations

APU Research Grant Recipients

International Research Grant Recipient	Industry Research Grant Recipients			
 Assistant Professor Ts Dr Siti Azreena Mubin <i>School of Computing & XR Studio (Research Centre)</i> The Kitasato University, Japan RM30,500	 Ir Ts Dr Denesh Sooriamoorthy <i>School of Engineering</i> Pixel Pine Sdn Bhd - RM105,000	 Associate Professor Dr Thang Ka Fei <i>School of Technology</i> MCMC - RM10,000	 Assistant Professor Ir EUR ING Ts Dr Lau Chee Yong <i>School of Engineering & Visionary AI Studio (Research Centre)</i> MCMC - RM10,000 JET Engineering Solutions Sdn Bhd - RM7,000 Vitrox Technologies Sdn Bhd - RM5,000	 Dr Adeline Sneha John Chrisatsum <i>School of Computing</i> World of Robotics Sdn Bhd - RM12,500
	 Assistant Professor Ts Dr Siti Azreena Mubin <i>School of Computing & XR Studio (Research Centre)</i> IMU - RM20,000 Solution Engiverse Sdn Bhd - RM9,720 Aquawalk Sdn Bhd - RM80,000	 Ts Dr Law Foong Li <i>School of Computing</i> Daikin Electronics Devices Malaysia Sdn Bhd - RM105,000	 Mr Zailan Arabee Abdul Salam <i>School of Computing</i> Vilja Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd - RM5,000	

Seven researchers secured RM399,720 in industry and international research funding, reinforcing the University's growing engagement with external partners. The total includes RM369,220 across 11 industry and local grants, alongside an international grant of RM30,500 from Kitasato University, Japan, supporting research with practical, collaborative and international relevance.

[RM399,720 Total Funding](#) | [7 Researchers](#) | [11 Industry & Local Grants](#) | [READ MORE](#) →

RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING

Research Week Builds Postgraduate Capacity Across Asia



Research Week strengthened postgraduate research capacity across Asia through a focused programme of workshops and scholarly engagement. More than 70 participants from 12 countries and around 20 universities and higher education institutions joined the programme, creating a regional space for researchers to exchange ideas, strengthen methodological skills and develop publication-ready research

70+ Participants | 12 Countries | ~20 Institutions | [READ MORE](#) →

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

11 International MoUs Expand Global Collaboration



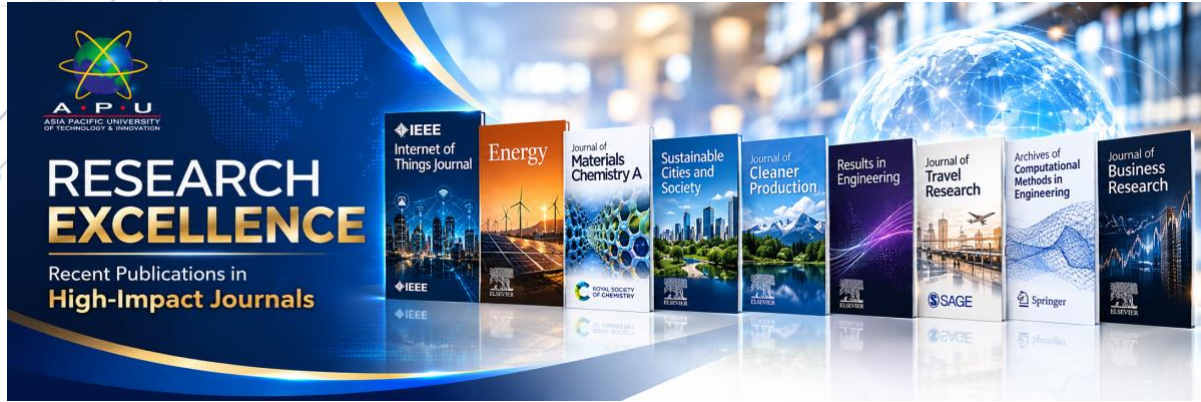
Eleven international Memoranda of Understanding signed in Egypt have expanded APU's global research and academic partnerships across institutions from 11 nations. The agreements create new pathways for joint research, academic mobility, publications and sustainable development initiatives, providing a stronger foundation for future cross-border projects and institutional collaboration.

11 MoUs | 11 Nations | Research • Mobility • Sustainable Development | [READ MORE](#) →

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Recent Publications in High Impact Factor Journals

APU researchers continue to advance international scholarship across sustainability, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, engineering, entrepreneurship and tourism. The featured 2026 publications below were selected from Scopus and/or Web of Science Q1 journals with impact factors above 8.0, which reflects the University's contributions to high-impact research. The complete list of publications is available [here](#).



Communication Management in Cooperative Robotic-Enabled Healthcare Systems

M. Adil, M. K. Khan, A. Ali, H. Abulkasim, A. Farouk, H. Song & Z. Jin

IEEE Internet of Things Journal • [View Publication →](#)

Hybrid Solar–Wind–Ocean Thermal Systems for Zero-Energy Buildings

E. Assareh, B. Rismanchi, A. Anwar, I. Poultangari, M. Fahimzadeh & T. Ngo

Energy • [View Publication →](#)

Electrocatalytic Hydrogen Generation from Seawater

R. Chetry, D. S. Gavali, M. Ahmadpour & U. Pal

Journal of Materials Chemistry A • [View Publication →](#)

Electric Vehicles and Urban Sustainability in Europe

K. Imandojemu, A. A. Rufai, R. Osabohien, D. F. Eluyela, H. Musibau & F. Orole

Sustainable Cities and Society • [View Publication →](#)

Entrepreneurial Leadership and Resource Management Efficiency for SME Sustainability

P. O. Irikefe, M. Falahat, A. D. Zainudin & H. Motaghi

Journal of Cleaner Production • [View Publication →](#)

Hybrid Energy Systems: Challenges and Future Directions

K. Ivan et al.

Results in Engineering • [View Publication →](#)

IoT-Integrated Transparent Flexible Monopole Antenna for Wireless Communication in Agriculture

N. Nurhayati et al.

Results in Engineering • [View Publication →](#)

Social Capital and Women's Informal Tourism Entrepreneurship

M. Sharifi-Tehrani, S. Seyfi, T. Vo-Thanh & M. Zaman

Journal of Travel Research • [View Publication →](#)

Computational Methods for Joint DG-Switch Optimization in Distribution Networks

E. Yaghoubi et al.

Archives of Computational Methods in Engineering • [View Publication →](#)

Salesperson Polychronicity and Value-Based Selling in B2B Markets

J. Yuan, B. Ahmad, Z. Yang, H. Ting & K. Shahzad

Journal of Business Research • [View Publication →](#)

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Four APU Researchers Recognised Among the World's Top 2% Scientists



Four APU researchers have been recognised among the world's top 2% scientists in the 2026 Stanford University-Elsevier database, highlighting the University's expanding global research presence. Their expertise spans Business and Management, Artificial Intelligence and Image Processing, Networking and Telecommunications, and Energy. This recognition reflects the international visibility of APU's scholarship across business, emerging technologies and sustainable energy. It also reinforces the University's commitment to impactful research, interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange. APU celebrates this achievement and looks forward to continued contributions addressing global challenges.

PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Calls for Papers

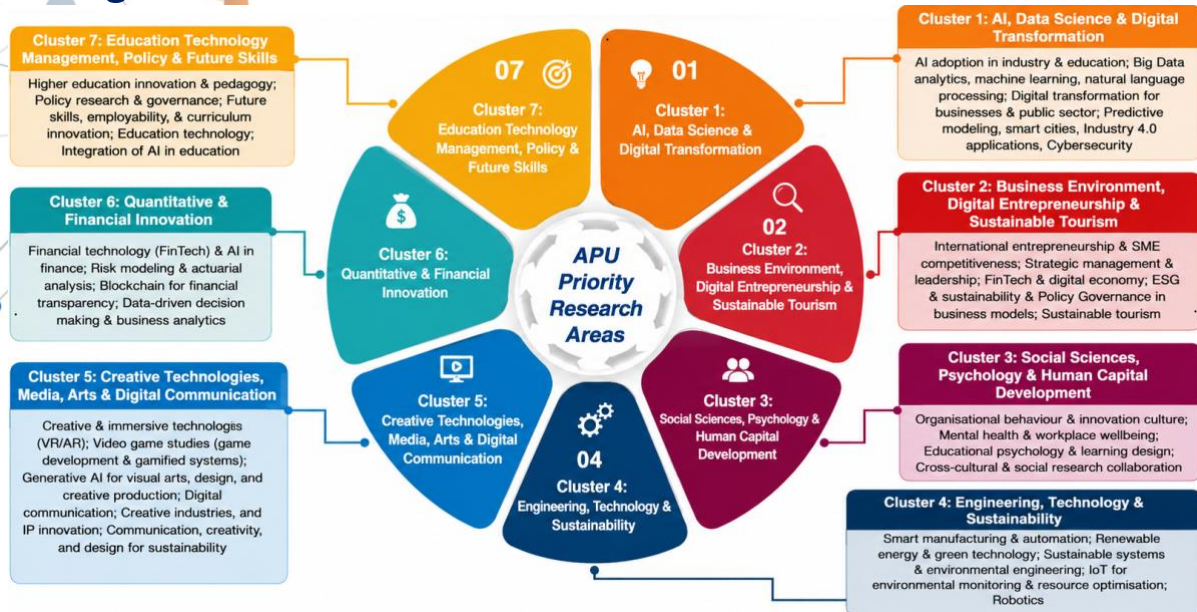


APU's scholarly journals continue to welcome high-quality research from academics, practitioners and postgraduate researchers. Current calls for papers from the Electronic Journal of Business and Management (EJBM) and the Journal of Applied Technology and Innovation (JATI) provide opportunities to share original research with wider academic and professional audiences.

[Submit to EJBM](#) | [Submit to JATI](#) →

PARTNER WITH US

Strategic Research Clusters



APU's seven Strategic Research Clusters bring together multidisciplinary expertise to address emerging research challenges, advance innovation and strengthen international partnerships. Each cluster provides opportunities for universities, researchers, industry and government organisations to collaborate in specialised research areas.

- **Cluster 1: AI, Data Science & Digital Transformation**
- **Cluster 2: Business Environment, Digital Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Tourism**
- **Cluster 3: Social Sciences, Psychology & Human Capital Development**
- **Cluster 4: Engineering, Technology & Sustainability**
- **Cluster 5: Creative Technologies, Media, Arts & Digital Communication**
- **Cluster 6: Quantitative & Financial Innovation**
- **Cluster 7: Education Technology Management, Policy & Future Skills**

How Can You Collaborate?

We welcome expressions of interest in joint research projects, co-authored publications, international research grants, postgraduate co-supervision, academic exchanges and industry-led innovation. Interested partners can connect with the Strategic Research Institute (SRI) by identifying their preferred cluster and sharing a brief outline of their research interests or proposed collaboration.

Interested in collaborating?

REACH OUT

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Falahat

Director, Strategic Research Institute (SRI), APU

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A YEAR OF GLOBAL RECOGNITION, EXCELLENCE & IMPACT

01 QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2027 APU'S HIGHEST-EVER GLOBAL POSITION

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS **=528** 

Top 2% of Universities Worldwide
Up 69 places from =597 in the previous edition
(Score 31.0)

 **#20**
International Students

 **#157**
International Faculty

 **#177**
Student Experience

 **Top 500**
Employer Reputation

02 QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS BY SUBJECT 2026

7 SUBJECT AREAS RECOGNISED
WITH THREE IN THE WORLD'S TOP 150

 **Top 150**
Petroleum Engineering

 **Top 150**
Art & Design

 **Top 150**
Hospitality & Leisure Management

 Business & Management Studies **Top 350**
 Computer Science & Information Systems **Top 350**
 Social Sciences & Management **Top 500**
 Electrical & Electronic Engineering **Top 550**

03 QS ASIA RANKINGS 2026

QS ASIA **#147**
Asia

#39
Southeast Asia

04 QS GLOBAL MBA RANKINGS 2027

FIRST-TIME ACHIEVEMENT

QS GLOBAL MBA RANKINGS **301+**

Global ranking band
(Score: 31)

#51 Asia

#1 Diversity Malaysia

05 SUSTAINABILITY & IMPACT

THE IMPACT RANKINGS **401-600**
Global ranking band
(2026)

 **3rd**
APU Sustainability Hackathon
(2026 edition)

06 AppliedHE™ Public & Private University Ranking

ASEAN

Top 20
Private Universities
in Asia

Top 5
Private Universities
in ASEAN

07 GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY & EMPLOYER RECOGNITION

 **100%**
Graduate employability

APU's published figure, attributed to the latest MOHE Graduate Tracer Study.

Talentbank™
EMPLOYERS' CHOICE OF UNIVERSITY 

- Third consecutive year (2024-2026)
- 6-Star Employer Choice ratings across 11 disciplines
- Computing & IT category champion for five consecutive years (2022-2026)

08 AWARDS & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

 **National Champion**
Microsoft Office Specialist Malaysia Championship

 **Champion**
National AI Competition

 **Champion**
AlphaSights Asia Case Competition

 **First Runner-Up**
Hackathon X: Fintech Forward

 **2 Gold Medals**
Asian Junior Powerlifting Championships

 **Bronze Medal**
Virtual Innovation Competition

 **Best Paper Award**
ICETCAI

09 RESEARCH EXCELLENCE & INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

 **Asia Graduate Research Summit 2026**

- 100 participants
- 10 Asian countries
- 30 universities and organisations

 **Strengthened Global Partnerships**

 **385** MoU signed with institutions worldwide
Across Asia, Europe, North America, South America, Africa and Oceania

10 MALAYSIA'S FIRST NVIDIA-POWERED DGX SPARK ADVANCING AI EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

APU is the first university in Malaysia to receive NVIDIA DGX Spark, marking a significant milestone in advancing AI education, research and innovation for a future-ready generation.

 **NVIDIA**
DGX Spark™



GLOBAL MINDSET



INDUSTRY RELEVANCE



RESEARCH IMPACT



SUSTAINABLE FUTURE