



Australian High Commission
Malaysia

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIA AND MALAYSIA STRENGTHEN RESEARCH TIES

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA – 12 September 2025: The Australian High Commission and Malaysia’s Ministry of Higher Education today hosted a Symposium to celebrate the achievements of ten Malaysian PhD scholars who completed a 12-week virtual research placement with supervisors from Australian universities.

The program provided scholars with the opportunity to gain international research exposure and build academic networks. Each scholar received an AU\$500 stipend to support their research collaboration.


Opening the Symposium, **Acting High Commissioner to Malaysia, Mr Simon Fellows** highlighted the 70th anniversary of Australia’s diplomatic presence in Malaysia in 2025, noting:

“This program reflects the modern and dynamic partnership between Australia and Malaysia. By connecting our scholars and researchers, we’re building ties that deliver positive impact for both countries.”

YBhg Datin Noorazah Omar, Undersecretary of the International Relations Division at Malaysia’s Ministry of Higher Education, commented on the program:

“Initiatives such as the Australia-Malaysia Virtual PhD Internship Program directly support these focus areas by fostering intellectual exchange, builds research capabilities, and opens doors for future collaborations in science, technology, and innovation.”

The Symposium also featured Three Minute Thesis presentations, alongside guest sessions on academic wellbeing by Dr Theresa Dicke, a host supervisor from Australian Catholic University and cross-cultural insights by Dr Show Ying Xin, a Malaysian-born lecturer at the Australian National University Malaysia Institute.



The program has strengthened early career researcher capacity and established lasting research ties between Malaysia and Australia.

To find out more about the scholars, visit www.malaysia.highcommission.gov.au.