



Attn: The Editor

Date:

DRAFT:

Media Release

Monash and MIMOS collaborate to set up world's first digital atlas.

Malaysia will soon produce the world's first digital atlas of the fish brain, through a collaborative effort between Monash University and MIMOS.

The library will be the world's second such database, and will be immensely useful for researchers in neuroscience, says Brain Research Institute at Monash Sunway (BRIMS) head Professor Ishwar Parhar.

He says the collaboration will leverage on Monash University's strength in neuroscience research and the computing capabilities at MIMOS to produce the three dimensional digital brain map.

Professor Ishwar was speaking after a signing ceremony between Monash University and MIMOS at the university's Sunway campus today.

Monash University was represented by its Pro Vice-Chancellor and President (Malaysia) Professor Robin Pollard while Dato' Wahab Abdullah, President & CEO, MIMOS signed on behalf of the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies.

The collaboration between Monash and MIMOS showcases the potential that can be unlocked through strategic partnerships that provide an opportunity to pool strengths and tap into a wealth of expertise.

"BRIMS as a leading neuroscience research centre in the region and MIMOS as the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies makes this ground breaking and ambitious project possible," said Professor Pollard.

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MONASH University

“Monash has set its sights on becoming a premier private research intensive university campus that actively contributes to Malaysia and the region.”

“To achieve this, we’re keen to expand such strategic collaborations in Malaysia and we look forward to a successful partnership with MIMOS, as well as other institutions in Malaysia,” added Professor Pollard.

The agreement between Monash and MIMOS will see BRIMS providing digital brain images to MIMOS.

These two dimensional images provided by BRIMS will be analysed using KnowledgeGRID Malaysia – a grid computational platform – developed by MIMOS to identify neurons and other parts of the brain for assembly into a three dimensional (3D) map.

“As the premier applied research centre in frontier technologies, with a grid computing platform that is part of the European Grid Network infrastructure, MIMOS is proud to be part of this endeavour with Monash to produce the world’s first digital atlas,” said Dato’ Wahab.

“Gene identification and accurate molecular mapping in 3D can be tedious. With KnowledgeGRID Malaysia, computational techniques that provide for analysis, visualization, modelling, and simulation can automate and speed up the creation of the 3D molecular neural anatomy,” added Dato’ Wahab.

MIMOS' collaborations with universities empowers MIMOS to undertake market focused and strategic applied research to grow the indigenous industries; build technology competencies in driving Centres of Excellence in frontier technologies; and develop joint projects for wealth creation, knowledge generation and social well being.

For more information, please contact Mr Jasbir Singh at the Sunway campus Media Office or Ms Tina Suryani Melan or Hill and Knowlton for MIMOS.

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About Monash

Monash University is one of the world's top universities, with eight campuses in Australia, Malaysia and South Africa. It is renowned for its research excellence, innovative teaching and quality learning outcomes.

The Sunway campus in Malaysia aims to develop into a premier private research-intensive university, contributing to Malaysia and the region.

About MIMOS

MIMOS is Malaysia's leading applied research organisation in information & communication technologies aimed at growing globally competitive indigenous industries.

MIMOS pursues exploratory and industry-driven applied research through multi-stakeholder smart partnerships with universities, research institutes, Government and industries with a focus on frontier technologies. MIMOS' applied research areas, based on real-world trends, are cyber space security, encryption systems, grid computing & multi-service networks, wireless broadband, MEMS/NEMS systems, advanced informatics, knowledge technology, micro energy systems and nanotechnology.

MIMOS is the recipient of Frost & Sullivan's Growth Excellence Award 2007 for Industry Innovation & Advancement (Precision Agriculture) for its application and development of Micro Electro Mechanical System (MEMS) in the field of precision agriculture.

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