

## Workshop of Publishing Stimulation: A Method of Increasing the Quantity

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**Abstract:** The workshop is an activity that can create an environment that is committed as well as strengthens ties between members. Through an effective workshop can produce targeted output. This study proposes the organization of a workshop that is able to stimulate the publication of a research group. The workshop was called publishing stimulator workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to monitor Key Performance Indicator (KPI) in publications such as journals, manuscripts and research books. In addition, it seeks to improve the manner and style of student manuscripts in addition students can learn tips to publish and produce journals, manuscripts or books of quality research and high impact. At the end of this study, an effective strategy can be used in a desperate situation with the results of this workshop. This strategy is called Desperate effective strategy.

**Key words:** Workshop, publishing stimulator, key performance indicator, manuscripts, research book, Malaysia

### INTRODUCTION

Workshop is a meeting of people to discuss and/or perform practical work in a subject or activity. It can be organized inside or outside institutions such as hotels, resorts or other attractions places according to their capabilities. The important thing is all members are placed together in a group and carry out an activity that has a goal. Effectiveness of a workshop depends on the pattern of the organization as a tentative/activities, pre-participation requirements, completeness of the materials and equipment, enforcement and others. The pattern of a good organization will bring integrity and high motivation for participating members. Sufficient knowledge and equipment is essential to ensure the objectives of the workshop organized achieved and it can run smoothly (UNISA, 2011).

Determine the direction and strategies for research and development activities in science and engineering is an important thing to challenge the global research at present. A structured and rigorous planning is also needed to ensure a research group capable to compete globally and thus, ensure the products of research can contribute towards enhancing the image of the university.

With university status as a research university, research activities should be consistent with this recognition. Achievement of departmental research activities can be seen through the involvement of researchers in various competitions. Through this competition, the public can know the achievement of researchers.

One way to reach the surrounding community about the achievements of the research is through writing. Journal, conference, magazine is one of the main platform for researchers to disseminate information on their research to the community (Zain *et al.*, 2011). It is important for students and researchers to be exposed the right way and technique of writing in order to produce a high indexed manuscript. One of the criteria that can help increase the university's position in the list of world's best universities is to increase the number of publications, especially publications of articles in indexed journals (Ab-Rahman *et al.*, 2011b). Hence, this workshop is to create a good initiative of a research group with integrated support department to support the aspirations of the university in particular and faculty generally. A structured and rigorous planning to ensure network systems engineering research group able to compete globally and thus, ensure that research products produced can

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contribute towards enhancing the image of the university. This publishing stimulation workshop aims to provide early exposure, guidance and techniques of scientific literature that is often used to produce a journal or book manuscript research. In addition, this workshop aims to improve the performance of students in their research fields and discussed with more detail about the problems in their studies and see how far the progress of their project. About the journal, the journal of quality high-impact journals in which case, the journal refers to researchers around the world to pursue their research. The quality manuscript will be a guide and reference for every researcher to feel confident and does not stray far from their research. Students who participate in this workshop are encouraged to submit their journals to the high impact journals to raise their own index. Thus, the level of student achievement and their research can be measured and assessed through their journal writing and index journal. Publishing stimulation workshop is one of the proposed activities to achieve easy research where the productive research without causing tension (Ab-Rahman *et al.*, 2011a). To increase and diversify the quantity of publications, MDA techniques can be emphasized in this workshop (Ab-Rahman, 2011; Ab-Rahman *et al.*, 2011d).

**Workshop objectives:** Objectives of manuscript writing catalyst workshop is as follows:

- To provides early exposure, guidance and techniques used to all the participants about the right way to write the scientific journal and how to publish it
- Provides information about the best places to publish research journals
- It is as a platform to acquire high-quality journals and high impact
- To give the confidence and enthusiasm to every participant so, they feel more confident to produce a research journal of research data that has been made
- Creating a culture to write studys, books and research journals among the SPECTECH (Spectrum Technology and Research Group), CNS (Computer and Network Security) and RASP (Research Advancement and Strategic Planning) group
- To conduct the presentation and discussion of effective writing strategies to improve the quality of manuscripts produced and thus contributing towards making high-impact
- To expose and train the participants with the right methods and techniques for journal writing

- Discuss the needs and direction of the research group
- Upgrading the conference manuscripts published as a manuscript journal
- Integrating the field; the field related to planning for future projects

**Workshop goals:** After the end of this course, participants expect to:

- Understand and operate a research project in the correct way
- Can work together in groups to handle a project
- Convince themselves when explain and clarify the research project made. Menulis jurnal yang mempunyai faktor impak dan berkualiti tinggi
- Maximize individual research journal publications
- Able to assess the journals, for example between the journals with high impact factors and indexed
- Increase the number of high-impact journal publications in 2011
- Know the proper methods and techniques in the production of journals and publications
- Have the ability to develop and write a manuscript journal
- Have the ability to review and edit the manuscript itself

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Case study: publishing catalyst workshop:** This workshop was held successfully in 6-8 May, 2011 in Pangkor Bay View Beach Resort, Teluk Nipah, Pangkor Island. This workshop was attended by 2 lecturers and 21 participants comprising of 2 research assistants and the rest were students Degree, Master and PhD. In Network Systems Lab. The centre for the success of this workshop is Prof. Dr. Kasmiran bin Jumari and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Syuhaimi Ab-Rahman, who also acted as project director, assisted by members of the committee that was formed to facilitate the program of the workshop. This workshop is using UKM-OUP-ICT-36-182/2011 provisions of RM6,900.00.

**KPI workshop content:** The workshop consists of two speakers, Prof. Dr. Kasmiran Bin Junari and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Syuhaimi Ab Rahman, Mohd. While the rest were research assistants and graduate students who took a PhD, Master and has done research at the Laboratory Network System. The full list of participants included in the Appendix A. The travel from UKM to Lumut Jetty takes about 4 h trip. This journey continues to Pangkor

island at 12:00 noon by ferry. This group was safely arrived at Pangkor Bay View Beach Resort at 1:30 p.m. After that the registration of the rooms were conducted upon arrival at the resort. Provision for 3 days were fully used to ensure the implementation of the workshop objectives achieved. On the night of the 1st day of the workshop, participants were presented with a brief opening address by Prof. Dr. Kasmiran bin Jumari and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Syuhaimi Ab-Rahman about the objectives of the workshops to participants. Prof. Dr. Kasmiran bin Jumari and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Syuhaimi Ab-Rahman delivered a brief speech (keynote speech) about writing and quality management of time to produce a quality journal. Besides that, they also revealed the information and method on how to assess the issue of a journal has been published as a reference to a manuscript that will be produced. On the 2nd day there were discussion and presentation on research studies by each participant from CNS, SPECTECH and RASP. In addition, participants are required to present a draft of the journals which they will submit to their supervisors for review. On day 3, participants were given the closing speech by Assoc. Dr. Kasmiran bin Jumari and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Syuhaimi Ab-Rahman Mohd. On the last day, participants take a bus to return to UKM.

Overall, this workshop aims to improve the structure of the papers written by participants, especially JKEES graduate students in this laboratory to be sent for publication in high impact or indexed international journals. Therefore, participants who attend this workshop must have at least one study for this purpose. The participants were also required to exchange the manuscript to one another so that the manuscript can be assessed and given the opinions to improve the quality of articles written. To ensure the workshops are not too strict and stressful to the participants, the extra events were conducted in a group activity.

Playing stress relief games to reduce stress is a good way to rid the body and mind of exhaustion, anxiety and depression. Playing games for at least 30 min every day can do wonders to refresh and rejuvenate physically and mentally (Malgaj, 2009). This activity requires cooperation among team members to guess the words of one meaning and test the skills to think creatively and critically. After completion of this activity, participants will return back to complete their manuscripts. After the end of the course, hope that participants will be able to:

- Understand and operate a research project in the right way
- Work together in groups to handle a project

- Confidence when explain and clarify the research project made
- Write a journal with impact factor and quality
- Maximise individual research journal publications
- Evaluate journals for example between journals have high impact factors and indices
- Increase the number of high-impact journal publications in 2011
- Know the proper methods and techniques in the production of journals and publications
- Have the ability to develop and write a manuscript journal
- Have the ability to review and edit the manuscript themselves

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Generally, this workshop has fulfilled all the objectives to be achieved by 17 papers were successfully completed and submitted for publication. The opinions and comments given by each participant was taken positively to produce a complete and quality manuscripts. Indirectly, it is seen that the students in the Network Systems Laboratory who was participating the workshop has demonstrated its strong commitment to meet the aspirations of the university, particularly in the areas of writing by adding the number of publications in high impact journals and thus, help to improve the ranking of university to become the world's top 50 universities in the THE-QS rankings. This workshop has provided many benefits to the participants to expose and train them with the correct writing techniques. Indirectly, the main goal of the workshop was also achieved when the majority of the studys presented by students in this workshop have been evaluated and submitted to high-impact publications. The workshop should focus on the objective of producing quality publications, whether journals with indexed/high impact factor or books.

This workshop also need to be attended by every member of the research group included students to discuss strategies on how to maximize and improve the quality of manuscripts produced. It is better they are from different field under the same research. Each participant must also produce the manuscript to be presented and discussed and it will be more effective if accompanied by the expert to provide guidance and constructive comments in the production of quality manuscripts. Publication target date and the name of the index and high-impact journals are to be discussed in the workshop to ensure they were published as planned. If each research has ten members in related field then the group can target a minimum of ten articles to be published. The

exposure to the right writing style and high-impact can help to increase the number of manuscript publications in high indexed and impact journals. This can be achieved by having a talk from an experienced facilitator. The proper technique and quality of writing should be cultivated within the researchers to produce high-impact manuscript. One of the steps to produce a manuscript that is not only in large amounts but also gives a high impact is to organize the writing talk. One way to encourage and develop cooperation among the members is to include fun activities like telematch that can build a good relationship between each member and to reduce work stress. Among the activities that take place during the workshop:

- Talk of writing high-impact journals
- Paper work presentation motivated to upgrade and generate
- Discussion to exchange ideas in the production of the manuscript together
- Telematch to create goodwill among researchers

The results can be achieved by holding workshops such as:

- Improving the quality of the manuscript to produce high-impact manuscript
- Application of proper techniques of journal writing
- Upgrading of the proceeding manuscript and reissued as a manuscript of journal
- Integration of disciplines related to the planning of future projects and writing

Materials that should available while organizing a workshop publication are as follows:

- Journal database
- Internet facilities
- Completed or partially complete manuscript
- Laptop for each participant
- Reference (a collection of journals and books in soft copy)
- Seminar equipment (projectors white boards, PA System)
- Games and entertainment equipment

Figure 1 is an photography example of publications stimulator workshops were held by one of the research group in one of the local university.



Fig. 1: Some of the activities can be organized in the publications stimulator workshop: a) the opening session; b) games; c) talk; d) writing session and improvement of the journal; d) meetings of research direction and e) presentation by the student

**The effective of desperate strategy:** This strategy should be adapted in every researcher who led the research. It is important actions which can be used to increase the publication and may as a rival to other research groups. A workshop to write journal articles can be organized in which each beneficial workshop can use provision of research funds.

The first step is to list quality journals that are easy to penetrate. Then each student should prepare an research that was sent to the journal. Many journals require payment to be issued. Therefore, the conditions should be set where they need to provide a manuscript if they want to participate in this workshop. If the journal is completed and has been reviewed and the result is also satisfactory do not wait any longer to be submitted for evaluation.

Currently, a lecturer's credit card plays an important role. Do not be too stingy to use your own money because it will be paid using grant universities (research or operational). The sooner the payment process of journals, the faster the article will be processed and published.

I usually use this technique in August or September if the number of journal articles published does not achieve the annual target. Do not upset if it was not published during the year because they will be published in the following year. I often use this strategy if I felt that the journals were published in a year is not enough. Do not be too eager to produce high-impact journals because the journals indexed in Scopus and ISI are also accepted in the journals.

For well-written articles and also have discusses the high quality of research findings, it would best to be reserved and submitted to the impact factor journals. Articles classified as middle class research results can be

evaluations despite not having the impact factor. High-impact journals typically take longer to be removed which is almost 24 months.

However, it is still up to the discretion of a head researcher to classify each of the finished articles that was written, whether it is eligible for impact factor or indexed considered to be sent to the journals indexed only. For example, the proposed workshop could be held to increase the quantity of journals are:

- Workshop on writing researche for Journal A
- Workshop on writing researche for Journal B

Since, almost all the journals under the Science alert and publication is indexed in Scopus. Researchers can plan and choose potential journals for publication. The supervisor needs to plan carefully so that the completed article can be sent to different journals. This is to prevent the collection of articles from the same researchers that could cause the article is rejected or take a long time for publication.

This is because the chief editor will try to organize each issue to show the contributors to the journal are from different groups to improve the quality and reputation of the journal.

Figure 2 shows a flow chart of the publishing process using this method to increase the number of journal. Starting with a establish strategy, a journal that has a high penetration levels are identified. Besides that, the delivery method, format, scope and number of the journal issue are fully understood.

Each student is instructed to prepare a manuscript relating to the latest achievements of their research. Organize a workshop at a less cost or within the budget. The manuscript prepared by each student completed and



Fig. 2: Continue

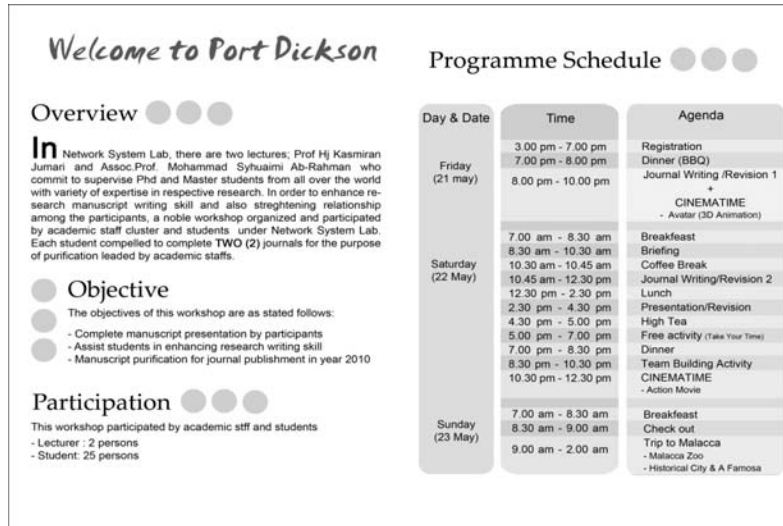


Fig. 2: Example of template for focused journal writing workshop

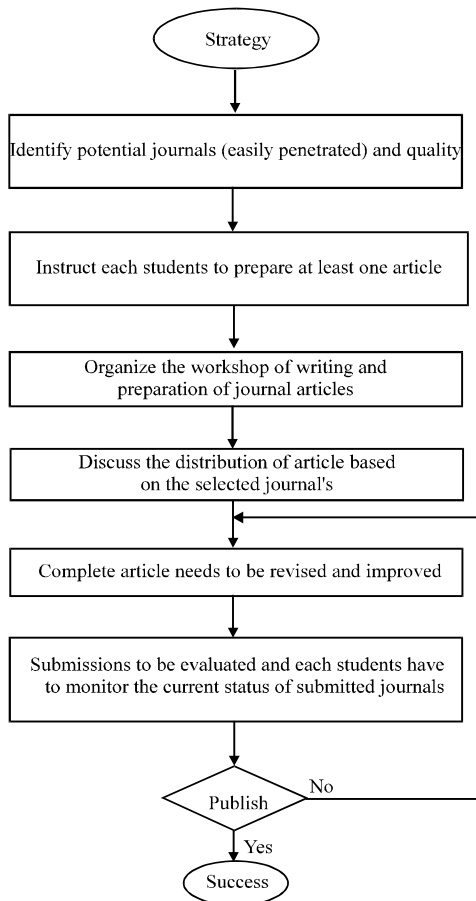


Fig. 3: Flow chart of the process of publishing workshop effectively to produce the maximum number of journals in a short period of time

revised during the workshop organized. After all, the completed article was submitted, students are asked to monitor the status of their articles. Figure 3 shows an example of Focused journal writing workshop template consisting of objectives, tentative of programs and research groups identification.

### CONCLUSION

One of the initiatives that can be done to improve the research group's KPI is by organizing the workshop. This study proposes a workshop of publications stimulation that aimed on increasing the quantity of publications. In addition, various other activities that can be applied with such as the talk, training, games to strengthen camaraderie and other activities that can enhance the understanding, skills and personality of researchers. To know better about the knowledge, techniques and skills that can be applied in each student can refer to this publication (Ab-Rahman *et al.*, 2011 c).

The purpose of this publication stimulator workshop was carried out to monitor the KPI (Key Performance Indicator) in publications such as journals, manuscripts and research books. In addition, it seeks to improve the manner and style of student manuscripts and can learn tips to publish and produce the quality and high-impact factor journals, manuscripts or research books.

At the end of this study, an effective strategy that can be used in a desperate attempt to fix the results obtained from this workshop. This strategy is called an Effective Desperate Strategy.

**APPENDIX A**

The proposed tentative

KPI MONITORING WORKSHOP

RASP-SPECTECH-CNS

Date: 6-8 May 2011

Venue: Pangkor Bay View Beach Resort, Teluk Nipah, Pangkor island

**First day (May 6, 2011)**

07:00 a.m. : Gathered at the Foyer of Electrical Engineering, UKM

07:15 a.m. : Move to the destination by bus UKM provided

11:00 a.m. : Assemble at Lumut Jetty-Morning drink

12:00 noon : Ride a ferry

12:45 noon : Gathered at the hotel compound

01:00 p.m. : Lunch/Rest/Pray

02:00 p.m. : Gathered in the meeting hall

03:00 p.m. : Check in

03:15 p.m. : The workshop began with opening speeches and briefings by Prof. Dr. Kasmiran Bin Jumari and Associate. Dr. Mohd. Syuhaimi Bin Ab. Rahman

: **Session 1:** Planning research project (Goals)

04:00 p.m. : Tea break

04:15 p.m. : **Session 2:** Strategic research plan

: **Session 3:** Motivation tips when doing research projects

: **Session 4:** Managing strategic research grant

06:00 p.m. : Games and free activities

07:30 p.m. : Dinner/Pray

09:00 p.m. : **Session 5:** Strategies for strengthening research

: **Session 6:** Small group activity: Review of the students and researcher's level of creativity and innovation

10:00 p.m. : Tea break

10:15 p.m. : Indoor games

11:00 p.m. : Movie viewing

**Second day (May 7, 2011)**

07:30 a.m. : Breakfast

08:30 a.m. : **Session 7:** Strategies to maximize publishing

09:15 a.m. : **Session 8:** Quality writing strategy

10:00 a.m. : Tea break

10:45 a.m. : **Session 9:** Manuscript revision strategies

11:45 a.m. : **Session 10:** Small group activities: manuscript review

12:30 noon : Lunch/Break/Pray

02:30 p.m. : **Session 11:** Useful tips for checking your own manuscript

03:00 p.m. : **Session 12:** Small group activities: exercise recording research

04:00 p.m. : Tea break

05:00 p.m. : Outdoor games and family activities

07:30 p.m. : Dinner (Steamboat/Western food)/Prayer

09:00 p.m. : Meeting-RASP-SPECTECH-CNS Roadmap

10:00 p.m. : Tea break

10:15 p.m. : Indoor games

11:00 p.m. : Free activities

**Third day (May 8, 2011)**

07:30 a.m. : Breakfast

09:00 a.m. : Conclusion and closure

10:00 a.m. : Morning drink

12:00 noon : Lunch/check out

12:30 noon : Moving from location to return with a ferry

01:00 p.m. : Ferry ride  
02:00 p.m. : Getting ready to board with the bus UKM from Lumut  
04:30 p.m. : Arrive at UKM

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