

Hundreds of Researchers Join International Science and Technology Conference at UGM

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At least 288 researchers from 12 states joined *International Conference on Science and Technology* (ICST) hosted by Publishing House (BPP) of Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) at Ballroom Eastparc Hotel Yogyakarta from 11-12 July. The annual event presents latest research produced by researchers from various universities.

Chairman of ICST, Prof. Dr. Jumina, said around 250 researchers would present their research findings. They come from Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, Japan, Australia, the Philippines, France, UK, and South Africa. The conference aims to share knowledge among researchers on current world research. "They can interact with each other and share knowledges related to science and technology developments," he said.

Jumina added the conference was expected to enhance cooperation between researchers so a solid and large network can be established in the future.

Rector of UGM, Prof Ir. Panut Mulyono, M.Eng., D.Eng., said UGM continued to encourage international conference like this that brings together academics and professionals so they can share



experiences and encourage science and technology progress in the country. “UGM will continue to encourage research in technology, chemistry, computer, and science,” he said.

According to the Rector, science and technology progress relies heavily on innovation, research and the opportunity of researchers to share ideas and information, hence this event is beneficial to the researchers. “We want to bridge the gap between disciplines by facilitating the dissemination of interdisciplinary sciences,” he added.

Keynote speakers in this conference are Prof David St.C Black from University of New South Wales, Australia, Prof Taku Demura, Ph.D., from NARA Institute of Science and Technology Jepang, Prof. Dr. Ir Sunjoto, Dip. HE., DEA., and Prof. Ir. Bambang Suhendro, M.Sc., from UGM.

Prof Bambang Suhendro in the meeting described the progress made in spread footing modification technology to support the construction of roads in soft soil and swamps. The modification he made includes thin concrete plates, thin slabs and spread footing that are inserted into the soft ground of 2.5 meter depth.

According to the Civil Engineering and Environment lecturer, the construction technology he developed was vertical concrete plates that act as soil blocks to maintain the stability of pavement and durability. “It has the benefit of shorter construction duration and cheaper costs as it does not require the use of heavy equipment,” he concluded.

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