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LAW, ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

Selected, peer-reviewed papers from the
International Conference on Law, Environment and Society (ICLES 2018), 13-16
November, 2018, Faculty of Law, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Bangi, Malaysia

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Preface

On behalf of the organizing committee, I am extremely pleased to present these proceedings containing selected peer reviewed papers from the 1st International Conference on Law, Environment and Society (ICLES) on the theme of “Nature and the Law” which was held from November 13-16, 2018 in the Faculty of Law, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Bangi, Malaysia.

With the current concerns about and emphasis on environmental sustainability in response to the rampant degradation laying waste to the earth, this conference was considered both timely and proactive in foregrounding the legal aspects of the sustainability movement. The 1st International Conference on Law, Environment and Society focused on the theme of “Nature and the Law” which offered a unique opportunity to researchers, academicians, students and other stakeholders to present and share their research work. This conference offered a venue to establish networks and linkages for future research collaboration with other participants at an international level. This inaugural ICLES 2018 also served as a catalyst to stimulate new ideas and innovate solutions to environmental challenges for a greener future.

The conference comprised a keynote speech, virtual poster and power point presentation or in-person participation poster exhibition concept which covered thematic sections on Environmental Law with subthemes that included access to information and justice, air quality management, biodiversity and nature management, climate change and sustainability, community engagement, eco-tourism sustainability, ecological restoration, economic development, globalization and environment, E-green Innovation and sustainable technologies, emissions trading, environmental and public participation, environmental crimes, environmental disaster management, environmental impact assessment, environmental incentives and taxes, environmental law and entrepreneurship and business, environmental Law and Ethics, Environmental law research methods and teaching related issues, environmental limits to Economic development, environmental Policies, Public Administration and Local Government, flora and fauna protection, food security and natural resource sustainability, forests and deforestation, global governance, hazardous waste management, human Rights and environment, international environmental principles, judicial and administrative remedies marine and habitat protection, nature conservation, national and international peace and security, raw materials and waste management, regional environmental issues, role of public authorities, NGO’s and private sectors, rural development, agriculture and plantation, transboundary pollution and sovereignty of State, water pollution and management, sustainable Development and Growth, and related issues.

As this was a poster conference, there were no plenary sessions or workshops. The posters were displayed everyday for the duration of the conference at the venue where students and academic staff of the Law Faculty of the host university and other invited guests comprising students and academic staff of Law faculties of other Malaysian universities, as well as other interested stakeholders were free to walk around the venue reading the posters and interacting with the presenters on an informal yet informative atmosphere. I am happy to state that the venue that surrounded a garden within the faculty enhanced the theme of the conference and created an atmosphere of conviviality and camaraderie amongst the participants and visitors.

A total of 33 poster submissions were accepted and presented at the conference by participants in person from the Philippines, Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan and Malaysia followed by the submission of full written articles. These articles were reviewed by the content experts (double blind peer review) after which the papers were edited for language and mechanics. The final number of submissions received, reviewed and accepted for publication was 32 indicating an acceptance rate of 96%. A total of 35 reviewers were involved in the stringent review process that included plagiarism detection using iThenticate software program.

The entire process involving the submission of abstracts and to the publication of the accepted full papers was handled manually by the committee in charge of the submission and peer review process. All abstracts were sent to the international review board to check for their compatibility with the conference themes.

On behalf of the organizing committee, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the esteemed keynote speaker, The Right Honorable Tan Sri Richard Malanjum, former Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Malaysia who gave an inspiring speech entitled

‘Environmental Justice – Bridging the Gap between Society’s Needs and Sustainable Environment’ on 14 November 2018. I also offer my heartfelt gratitude to all members of the organizing committee, peer review committee, and all reviewers who gave unstintingly of their time to ensure the success of this inaugural conference. Last but not least, a special thanks is due to all the participants of ICLES 2018, whose work has planted the seeds for the ripening and fruiting of more ideas to ground this conference into the bedrock of academic excellence. I look forward to the contributions in the subsequent ICLES conferences.

24 February, 2019

Prof Dr Zinatul Ashiqin Zainol

Chair, ICLES 2018

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Bangi, Selangor,

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The Right Honorable Tan Sri Richard Malanjum
Former Chief Justice of the Federal Court Malaysia

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