

Biometric School 2012 (Winter Edition)

23 Jan 2012, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

The first edition of Biometric School 2012 (www.biometricschool.org) which took place on 9-13 January 2012 was conducted successfully in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. The event was sponsored by two non-profit academic bodies: IEEE and IAPR. The participants come from Malaysia, Iran, and Algeria. The lectures were delivered by 9 established researchers in the field (see the list of lecturers below).

The week-long intensive course offered participants the latest development in biometrics, covering such topics as face, fingerprint, iris and speaker recognition, as well as multimodal biometric and cryptosystems.

Apart from regular lectures, there were also two hands-on tutorials and a poster session that took place in the evenings. The social activities included two trips of visit to Kuching and the Sarawak Cultural Village.

About half of the participants provided feedback. The lecture content was rated from above average to excellent by all. 3/4 of the respondents rated the speakers and their presentations from average to excellent.

One feature of the school that was different from a conventional meeting was the location. The school was held in a rainforest resort where the accommodation and lecture room were blended into the rainforest. For many, this was their first experience.

The participants quoted that the event was a great opportunity to “get connected with the biometrics research community.”

“The location is very beautiful, excellent in services and the speakers or presentators are well prepared for the school. The most important thing is the accurate and latest information regarding to the subject matter or modality which used in the research.”

“The presentations of the key note speakers are very informative and interesting. Besides getting the general idea of a biometrics recognition system, the participants also get to know the state of art, the trend as well as the challenges.”

“The hands-on workshop session is very useful to give a clearer understanding on a certain topic.”

“Meeting the top experts and researchers worldwide to share and exchange ideas ...”

“The experience attending the lecture was really informative (for me; it helps me) to move forward to supervise my students.”

The organising committee were grateful to the financial support of PASCAL2, an EU-funded network of excellence with a focus on machine-learning; United Technology (M) Sdn. Bhd., a technology consulting company who promotes training on biometrics through IEEE Certified Biometrics

Programme (IEEE CBP); and, Advanced Computing Academy for awarding scholarships to postgraduate research students with limited financial support.

All respondents said that they would attend the event again. Kuala Lumpur was suggested for the next edition of the school.

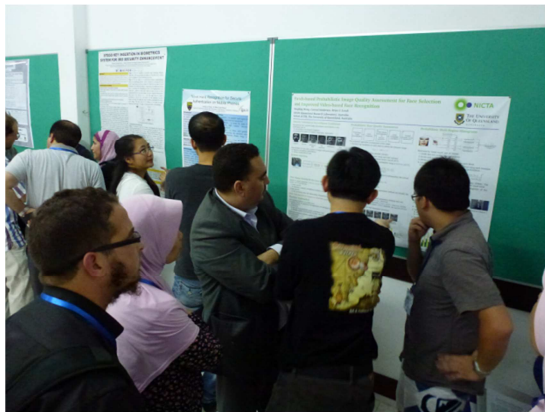
Norman Poh

List of lecturers and their lecture topics

Lecturer	Topics
Prof. Jaihie KIM (Korea)	Touchless fingerprint recognition and Biometrics & privacy protection
Prof. Davide Maltoni (Italy)	Fingerprint recognition: state of the art and novel developments
Dr. Karthik Nandakumar (Singapore)	Fusion strategies and template security in biometric systems
Dr. Norman Poh (UK)	Novel research directions in multimodal biometrics: Incorporating quality, cohort and client-dependent information
Prof. Tieniu Tan (China)	Iris recognition: state of the art, issues and challenges
Dr. Terence Sim (Singapore)	Face recognition in challenging conditions, facial pre-processing, learning and inference
Dr. Andrew Teoh (Korea)	Biometric-key computation
Prof. Kar-ann Toh (Korea)	Linear and advanced classifier design for biometric systems
Prof. Michael Wagner (Australia)	Speaker Recognition and Forensics



Prof Michael Wagner giving comments to help students presenting their work.



Poster session was one of the highlights. It was well attended even though the event took place in the evening.



A photo taken during one of the lecture sessions

Biometric School 2012 (Winter Edition) Lecture Programme

	MON (9/1)	TUE (10/1)	WED (11/1)	THUR (12/1) †	FRI (13/1)
8:30-10:00am	Dimensionality reduction (Andrew Teoh)	Multimodal biometrics (Karthik Nandakumar)	[8am] Bayesian classifier (Norman Poh)	[8am] Face recognition (Terence Sim)	Iris recognition: The state of the art (Zhenan Sun)
10:00-10:30am	Break	Break	Photo-session	Break	Break
10:30am-12:00pm	Biometric key computation (Andrew Teoh)	Biometric template security	Visit to Sarawak	Face recognition (Terence Sim)	Iris recognition: novel

		(Karthik Nandakumar)	Cultural Village (Sponsored by UniTech)		challenges (Zhenan Sun) [11:45pm]
12:00-2:00pm	Lunch				
2:00-3:30pm	Linear classifier design (Kar-ann Toh)	Fingerprint recognition: The state of the art (Davide Maltoni)	Touchless fingerprint recognition (Jaihie Kim)	[1:30pm] Speaker recognition (Michael Wagner)	Quality-based biometric fusion (Norman Poh)
3:30-4:00pm	Break				
4:00-5:30pm	Advanced classifier design (Kar-ann Toh)	Fingerprint recognition: New directions (Davide Maltoni)	Biometrics and privacy protection (Jaihie Kim)	[3:30pm] Speaker forensics (Michael Wagner)	Group presentation Closing
7pm onwards	Dinner			[5:15pm]	[5:30pm]
8:30pm-9:30 pm	Hands-on tutorial	Poster and Demo	Hands-on tutorial	Trip to Kuching centre	Trip to Kuching centre
9:30pm -	Tea	Tea	Tea		