

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



First and foremost I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Accounting Research Institute (ARI) for yet another remarkable year. Indeed, the year 2014 had witnessed momentous accomplishments for ARI, putting it on the world map in the realm of Islamic finance. This could be seen through its achievements, among which was being selected as one of the winners for the prestigious Global Islamic Finance Award (GIFA) 2014.

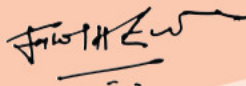
It has been a proud moment not only for ARI, but also for UiTM, as the award amplifies the positioning of ARI as a research centre, with Islamic financial criminology as its niche area. The recognition from the international finance community is also reflective of ARI's coming of age as a research entity of global stature.

I am confident that ARI will continue to move ahead and seek greater heights to ascertain that it remains at the forefront in manifesting its core business of research and consultancy and more beyond the shores of Malaysia. This is certainly achievable, given the steadfastness, intellect and industry of those behind the success of ARI, all these years.

Hence, I would like to see ARI come up with strategies and measures that will ensure its sustainability as a vanguard of Islamic financial criminology, not only in Malaysia, but also in the international arena, with the ultimate goal of becoming a global reference hub in the specialized field of Islamic financial criminology.

To everyone in ARI: Keep up the good work. Aim beyond the sky. Continue to make UiTM and Malaysia proud of you as the driving force behind all the success stories which once began with the spirit to embrace change and to be counted among experts in accounting research, at home and abroad.

Congratulations and Syabas...!



**Tan Sri Dato' Sri Prof. Ir Dr Sahol Hamid Abu Bakar**

## MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH & INNOVATION)



Hearty congratulations to the Accounting Research Institute (ARI) for its persistent commitment and rigorous effort in publishing ARI Updates 2014.

ARI's achievements throughout the year has done UiTM proud for the accolades given as being the only social science research centre in the country acquiring a Higher Institutions' Centre of Excellence (HiCoE) status. ARI has succeeded in carrying out relevant research activities focuses on a specific niche research area - Islamic Financial Criminology (IFC) that resulted in quality outcomes to the university, community and country. Reflecting the name that it carries, ARI always strives to become an outstanding entity which pioneers research in Islamic Finance and Financial Criminology. With International recognitions such as the "Best Islamic Finance Education Provider 2014" at the Global Islamic Finance Award (GIFA) 2014, I am personally impressed with the relentless commitment showed by fellows and associate members of ARI for their imagination, invention and creativity which are drawn to the benefit of various professions and society. Winning the most prestigious awards in the Islamic banking and finance sector has shown ARI's commitment and contributions in knowledge dissemination regarding Islamic banking and finance and promoting social responsibility, Shari'a authenticity and commitment to Islamic banking and finance.

International collaborations with universities and research organizations in Asia, Australia and Europe have evidenced ARI's visibility on the world map in fulfilling its Internationalisation agenda for 2014 in the area of Islamic Finance and Financial Criminology. As a Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) of Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), I am pleased to see such achievements which are in-line with the university's aspiration of being a world class university.

I believe ARI will keep on the momentum to be on track in the pursuance of excellence in research, innovation and commercialization. Ultimately, it is my wish to see ARI to be one of the world's premier research institutes with new discoveries to be adopted and translated in benefitting the areas of Islamic Finance and Financial Criminology at home and beyond the shores of Malaysia.



**Prof. Ir. Dr. Hj. Abdul Rahman Omar**  
Universiti Teknologi MARA

## MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR ARI



The year 2014 has been a rewarding year for the Accounting Research Institute (ARI) as the international community recognised ARI's commitment and success in the area of Islamic Financial Criminology by awarding ARI as the Best Islamic Finance Education Provider 2014 at the Global Islamic Finance Award (GIFA) 2014 in Dubai. This clearly shows the high impact that we are making in the area of Islamic Financial Criminology, which consistently outperform other benchmarked international institutions.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all ARI fellows, researchers and supporting staff for a job well-done. With this strong accomplishment and recognition, I hope ARI fellows and researchers will be more driven towards pursuing new cutting-edge research in the area of Islamic Financial Criminology with international collaborators in line with our aspiration of becoming an international global reference centre by the year 2020.

One of ARI's major strengths is its unique partnership with the international community. This year we continue to foster such partnerships through various international networking and research collaborations, signings of memorandum of understandings (MOUs) including the co-hosting of international conferences with other leading international universities to maintain our international presence. It is ARI's aspiration that these strategic alliances with other leading academic institutions will put ARI on the world map both in the Asia-Pacific region and globally.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported ARI especially the Ministry of Education and the Vice-Chancellor of UiTM. To our industry partners and research collaborators, thank you for your support in helping ARI drive its research agenda and to help build community.

To everyone at ARI, congratulations for another fruitful and accomplished year. Keep up the good work!

Thank you.



**Prof Dr Normah Omar**