

## **REMARKS FROM THE DEAN, AHMAD IBRAHIM KULLIYYAH OF LAWS, IIUM**

As a law school that is entrusted to mould the next generation of legal practitioners who could champion just causes and lead the industry, Ahmad Ibrahim Kulliyah of Laws (AIKOL) views close collaboration with professional bodies as indispensable. With this in mind, the faculty paid a courtesy call on the President of the Bar Council, Datuk Abdul Fareed Abdul Gafoor on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 discussing collaborative efforts in the training of law students and young lawyers.

In this first meeting, we impressed upon the importance of the Journal of the Malaysian Bar, namely INSAF, as a platform to exchange ideas and to highlight critical issues in the development of the law and society. AIKOL and representatives of the Bar Council led by Mr Mohamad Ezri Abdul Wahab and Puan Murshidah Mustafa discussed further the details of the undertaking in a meeting at AIKOL on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019. We are happy that our view is shared by the leadership of the Bar and the joint effort to revive the journal was formalised through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IIUM and the Malaysian Bar on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 where the representative of the Bar was led by Mr. Salim Bashir, the then President of the Bar.

In implementing the MoU, a Joint Editorial Board was set up in April 2021 consisting of members of the Bar and colleagues from AIKOL. In the first meeting of the Board in May 2021, the Call for Papers and timeline was agreed upon, followed up by the appointment of a postgraduate student of AIKOL as an Editorial Assistant. The Editorial Board decided to implement the double-blind review where one of the reviewers is from the Bar and another from legal academia. We hope that the meeting of minds between the Bar and AIKOL in the Joint Editorial Board produces excellent articles for the benefit of the practice and the academia.

The revived INSAF is published one issue per year at this initial stage. It will be available as an E-Journal to adapt to the current need of the readers. It is accessible under the Open Journal System ('OJS') through the Malaysian Bar website. The team from AIKOL is assisting the migration of the back-issues of INSAF to the OJS .

Indeed, the effort to revive INSAF requires the commitment and perseverance from all parties, particularly from the Joint Editorial Board. On the part of the Kulliyah, we want to record our utmost appreciation to our representatives on the Board, namely Professor Dr Sharifah Zubaidah Syed Abdul Kader as the Associate Editor, as well as Dr Sodiq Omoola and Dr Areej Torla as members, for their willingness to take up the challenge and their dedication to ensure the success of this endeavour. We also hope that Mr. Zia Qazizada acting as the Editorial Assistant gains valuable experience in assisting the Joint Editorial Board.

As a joint effort, certainly this project would not succeed without the shared vision and commitment from the Bar. We would like to thank the past and current leadership of the Malaysian Bar, in particular Mr AG Kalidas as the President for his continuous support. Our thanks also to the Chief Editor, Mr. Surindar Singh, and his team in the Joint Editorial Board, En. Mohamad Ezri Abdul Wahab and Mr. Lee Guan Tong.

It is our ardent hope that the revived INSAF continues to be the platform for everyone interested in the development of the law in Malaysia to share their thoughts, ideas and suggestions.

**PROF. DR. FARID SUFIAN SHUAIB**