History of SLP in Malaysia

1960-70s - few services
- foreign volunteers, employed by NGOs
- No local infrastructure - training/service

1988 initiation by medical faculty UKM
- Need to supplement ENT services
- As part of UKM expansion plan
- Faculty of Health Sciences formed in 1992

1993-99 Development and refinement of curriculum
- UKM visiting Professor Grants
- 6-yr British Council grant for International Cooperation in Higher Learning (CICHE)
  ✓ Teach core SLP subjects
  ✓ External examiners

The UKM Program

First intake 1995 - 9 students
- Graduated 12 cohorts since (total 150)
- 2011/12 intake: 16 students

Undergraduate 4-year degree program
- Entry level qualification
- Admission from Advance level High School Certificate (A-Level equivalent) or
- 2-year matriculation
- University entry requirement: Total of 12 years of formal schooling

Growth

Faculty
- Started with 3 core faculties in speech pathology and audiology
- Medical, basic sciences and humanities of UKM
- UK visiting faculties from University of London, Birmingham, Cardiff, Reading and City
- Australian visiting faculties - provide training for local clinical supervisors

2012 - 90% local faculties teaching core SLP subjects
- Active: 9 PhDs, 3 MSc
- Occasional Visiting professors for selected topics
- External examiners

Focus

Curriculum focus for local multi lingual/ethnic population
- Initial focus: hearing impairment, children's language
- Later development to include all core areas of SLP

At least one local faculty in voice, dysfluency, cleft lip & palate, child language, bilingualism, clinical linguistics, hearing impairment

Returning faculty in telepractice, pediatric neurogenics, swallowing, adult neurogenics

Phases of Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial 5 years</th>
<th>Second 5 years</th>
<th>Third/Fourth 5 years</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing impairment</td>
<td>Documentation of children's local language development</td>
<td>Voice/Swallowing research</td>
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<td>Hearing awareness, public education</td>
<td>Development of language assessment tools</td>
<td>Bi/Multilingualism Child language tools</td>
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<td>Hearing aids in schools</td>
<td>Parent centered approaches</td>
<td>Community based rehab Telepractice</td>
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<td>UKM Cochlear Implant program</td>
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<td>Resonance, Fluency</td>
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<td>National Cochlear Implant program</td>
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<td>Clinical Teaching</td>
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</tbody>
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Key to Success

Parallel training of teaching faculty
- Full scholarship by UKM & Ministry of Higher Education up to PhD
- Since 1995: 15 sent to Australia, UK and US
- 8 completed PhD (1 more to complete 2012)
- 3 completed Masters (1 to complete)
- 2 drop outs

Successful Projects

- Initiated first cochlear implant program in 1994
- TUTUR In-house Early Intervention Program for children with hearing impairment
- Successful international student linkages with Flinders University, Australia 2008-2011
- Speech camps with Monash University, Australia since 2009
- Community projects
  ✓ To promote awareness, provide service and make friends
- 2012 Institute HEARS - grants & public endowments

Sustainability

- UKM program accredited by Ministry of Higher Education
- 60% SLPs work in health settings, public and private
- 30% in private centers and NGOs
- Gazetted positions in government hospitals, schools, early intervention programs, social and welfare services
- Faculty actively involved in Allied Health Council to formulate professional ethics

Moving forward

Current ratio 1: 100,000 population
Services concentrated in urban and state capitals
Only 20% of government positions filled
- Attractive private services
- Salary in government positions equivalent to pharmacists, occupational therapists, physical therapists
- Rural /Community services still under developed
- Number not adequate

Challenges ahead

Developing local expertise and research in relevant areas
Young academic and clinical faculty
- Until 2010 High turnover for further education
- Balance in research, teaching and clinics
- Sharp learning curve

Benchmarking program against international standards