

# AUKU AMENDMENT: A FORUM



**When:** 8 February 2012

**Where:** Razak School of Government

**Who:** YBhg. Emeritus Professor Datuk Dr. Shad Saleem Faruqi, Dr. Azmi Sharom and Mr. Woon King Chai

**Target Group:** Stakeholders involved in AUKU and its future. This includes academicians, student leaders, human rights advocates, think tankers and public servants

## **About the Forum**

Student political activism is seeing a revival in Malaysia and current concerns among the academe points to the continued existence of the Universities and University Colleges Act. Vernacularly known as Akta Universiti dan Kolej Universiti (AUKU), it is a law passed to assist with the administration of universities (as stated in its preamble). However, it is more infamously known for regulating academic freedom and student political participation. Recently, protests against the AUKU by university students as well as a landmark Court of Appeal ruling declaring provisions of the AUKU as unconstitutional has sparked further debate, both for and against AUKU. In response, AUKU Amendment Committee has been formed by the Government of Malaysia to look into revisions of the law.

As it stands, many issues still surround AUKU especially so pertaining to its utility; both symbolically and practically in relation to university administration, student liberties, and society's peace and harmony. With this in mind, the Razak School of Government (RSOG) hosts this intimate and interactive forum, seeking to provide a platform to enable intellectual, thought-provoking and open discourse on AUKU amongst its stakeholders.

## **About the Speakers**

- **YBhg. Emeritus Professor Datuk Dr. Shad Saleem Faruqi** is Emeritus Professor of Law & Legal Advisor at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM). He describes himself as a law teacher with 41 years of experience. He will speak on “New Thinking in University Governance”.
- **Dr. Azmi Sharom**, an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law in University of Malaya, describes himself simply as a law lecturer. Dr Azmi will delve into “Constitutionality of AUKU and Its Modern Day Relevance”.
- **Mr. Woon King Chai** is currently a Special Officer to the Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports. Infamously known as one of the UKM4, a group of students involved in legal tussle to declare s.15(5) of AUKU as unconstitutional, he will expound on “Experiences of a Student Activist and AUKU’s Future”.

## Objectives

1. To raise awareness on the current issues surrounding AUKU
2. To discuss alternatives and the way forward in relation to university governance and student actualisation

## Programme Outcomes

1. Tangible suggestions on AUKU’s future
2. Deeper understanding of AUKU and its impact on society

## Contact

To get more information on this event, you can contact us via email at [programmes@rsog.com.my](mailto:programmes@rsog.com.my).

## Attachments

Presentation slide handouts of the event can be downloaded here:

1. [Experiences of a students activist](#)
2. [New thinking in university governance](#)
3. [Federal Constitution article 10](#)

## Photo Gallery

(link to the gallery)