Workshop “How To Win Research Grants” organized by Research Management Centre, MAHSA University was held on the 13th March 2019. A total of 45 academic staff participated in the workshop. Two experts were involved, namely, Professor Dr. Gan Siew Hua, Head of School of Pharmacy Monash University, and Associate Professor Dr. Teguh Haryo Sasangko Deputy Director, Centre for Research Excellence of Perdana University. Professor Dr. Gan is a well-known expert in the field of Pharmacy and has been involved in countless numbers of similar workshops, and assisting junior academics achieve grants, both at national and international levels. Professor Dr. Teguh obtained his PhD from Kobe University, Japan, and has been actively involved in guiding workshop participants in broad-ranging areas of research, particularly Cochrane Reviews and successful publishing.

Professor Dr Zabidi Hussin, the newly appointed Director of Postgraduate Studies Research and Innovation, in his opening remarks mentioned that this workshop is part of a series of workshops designed to enhance the capacity-building of MAHSA academic staff in research. Staff are also encouraged to propose to the Research Management Committee other workshops that will achieve the above objective.

Professor Dr. Teguh started the first presentation entitled “Painless Publishing” by referring to a number of ways staff can publish, without necessarily needing grants. He referred to publishing Scoping Reviews and Cochrane Reviews as some examples. At the end of his presentation, Professor Dr. Teguh gave a hands-on presentation to all staff on improving their research bibliometrics by entering their research credentials into the ORCID and Google Scholar Database.

Professor Dr. Gan began her talk on How to Win Research Grants by giving participants very clear guidelines on the assessment methods used by FRGS assessors in deciding whether to award such grants to investigators. She also gave an excellent review on all available national and international grants. At the end of the workshop, she personally reviewed all proposals that were brought by participants and gave critical reviews of all of them.