



## **Impacts of Mentoring Research Programme to Enhance the Understanding of Gifted Students towards Biology**

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### **Abstract**

The Mentoring Research Programme has been conducted at National Gifted Centre, National University of Malaysia (UKM) during final semester which involved the gifted students ( $n = 33$ ) and experienced UKM lecturers as their Research Mentor. This programme encouraged students to conduct research in any interested fields of Biology. Selected gifted students have been assigned a research project which beyond their level of thinking and they have to complete the research within 7 months. These students have undergone several lab works, synthesizing the design and the experimental procedure of the research which guided by their Supervisor. This research project developed the curiosity of the students towards the Biology and enhance their understanding of what they have learned in normal class. Questionnaire has been given and it showed that 90% of the students agreed that this programme has increased their understanding in Biology. This findings has been supported by the pre and post intervention data collected through their final examination result. It was clearly revealed that most of the gifted students had showed excellent performance in their academic work in Biology. Besides that, the understanding of the Biology subject has been assessed through the student's project conference held at the school which they have to produce a poster on the research topic and presented it as one of the evaluation methods. This study has proved that the student's understanding in Biology can be enhanced through the research project and one of the teaching method for gifted and talented students.