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UMP's World-Class Researchers

Wins attained by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) researchers and academicians at various international conferences has world-class scholars.

As the pride of the university, they were feted and celebrated at a special event organised to mark their achievement.

A total of 160 researchers and academicians were presented with awards and prizes at the *Anugerah Cendekia* held at the Hotel, Kuantan on April 12, 2019.

They were recipients for various categories including 130 under the journal publication, 13 for product, 13 for process, one each for the book, quality and creativity categories.

ACB also featured the University Academic Award (AAU) for UMP academicians who displayed credibility in research, teaching and learning.

Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dato' Sri Ibrahim Ahmad said he was really proud with their achievement.

However, he also reminded them to be more prepared to face the challenges in the university as it moved forward in research and innovation.

"By changing the paradigm and thinking framework in research, development and commercialisation activities, we can bring in more money in the context of financial sustainability."

"Apart from this, UMP also put emphasis on not only return on investment (ROI) by way of research findings, but also the utility of the research which benefits the community in the long run," he said.

He also viewed that over the years, the 'lab to market' paradigm had been curbing the ability of many universities to commercialise the research products they produced.

"However, if this paradigm is changed to 'market to lab', the university will not only gain commercial benefit private partner or the industry but will also allow universities to play a role in expanding the potentials of its enterprises (SMEs).

"Also, in view of the need to establish a collaboration on 'lab to market' with a win-win situation, there innovative capability towards applied research projects as compared to fundamental research," he added.

Dato' Sri Ibrahim said this in his speech at the ACB dinner.

Also present were UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Sri Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Kamal Zuhaili Zamli, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), Professor Ir. Dr. Wan A (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato' Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin and Registrar/Chief Operating Officer, A

Professor Dato' Sri Dr. Daing Nasir also said the highest nomination recorded was in the journal category nominations.

"What is more remarkable is that the Faculty of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering (FKMP) is at its very best under the journal publication category.

"The expression 'S.T.A.R.S - Glimpses of Glory', which is the theme for this year, reflects the success of the university with each alphabet of S.T.A.R.S. representing the essence of the university's five core values – strong relational principles that have been collectively agreed upon, creative in making wise decisions, perseverance in facing challenges and

"UMP also emerged as a five-star university, positioned at 188 among universities in Asia - as ranked by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. The university was also highly commended in green innovative campaign which led to the university listed fifth in the UI Green Metric rating."

"The list of achievements continued with the university producing the highest patents in green technology among universities in Asia."

He also said as of 2018, a total of 579 intellectual properties produced from the numerous scientific and technical publications and research products had been filed by UMP, in a move to protect its intellectual properties.

He added that there were 75 new intellectual properties that had obtained legal protections covering trademarks.

At the same event, Dr. Azwin Arif Abdul Rahim from Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences was presented with the Best Researcher Award, Dr. Mohd Fairusham Ghazali was presented with the Best Researcher in Social Science Category, while Dr. Lee Chia Kuang, a lecturer from the Faculty of Business Administration was presented with the Most Promising Academician Award.

Other ACB recipients were Associate Professor Ir. Dr. Mohd Fairusham Ghazali and Associate Professor Dr. Muzamir Nizam Tajuddin for the best journal publication and research product and Associate Professor Dr. Muzamir Nizam Tajuddin for the international grant category.

MyCafe – UMP community provides free food for students

By: NOR SALWANA MOHD IDRIS, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Nine food operators around Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) campus took part in the MyGift Initiative programme that provided free food to students facing financial difficulties and the needy ones.

The Friends of Community group included Restoran Tunas Budi Sdn. Bhd, Restoran Mak Andak, Warung Warung Mazarah Abdul Manaf, Madi Uya Enterprise, Kedai Mokna and Warung Rahmat DK.

Certificates of appreciation and food coupons were presented by UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Sri Hall, Pekan Campus on April 11, 2019.

Also present were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato' Dr. Yusserie Zainuddin (Innovation), Professor Ts. Dr. Kamal Zuhairi Zamli and Pro-Registrar, Abd Rahman Haji Safie.

In his speech, Professor Dato' Sri Dr. Daing Nasir expressed his gratitude to the food operators for supporting the programme.

"The programme is an initiative under the university's MyGift that encourages the public to donate for a good cause," he said.

"The MyCafe programme involves food operators operating nearby the university campus who have agreed to contribute a portion of their earnings to the programme, especially those living out of campus and those facing financial difficulties."

"The university does not have a limit on the volume of the contributions and that it is up to the food operators to decide how much they want to contribute. The students will be given free food at the designated eateries," he said.

He hoped that the programme would bring mutual benefits for both the food operators and students.

He believed it would give the students some perspective in life when they graduated and for them to have sustenance be given to the food operators.

He added that the initiative had been extended to UMP Gambang Campus and was confident that more come forward to participate in the programme.

One of the food operators, Noresah Kamal, 56, or also known as Mak Andak, said she was proud to be part of the programme as she had been operating her business for 11 years in Kampung Marhum.

UMP staff and students were among her customers and it was only right to help students who were in need of help, she said. She added that she had been operating her business in UMP as she had taken part in a series of 'Kongsi Rezeki' programmes organised by the university.

Mak Andak said throughout the years in running her business, she knew some students who were cash-strapped and in need of help.

"I see them like my own children and I hope that my small contribution will help ease their burden," she added.

One of the students selected for the free food programme was Aslyana Rahman, 22, from Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. She said she was overwhelmed and thankful to be chosen for the initiative.

She thanked the university and the food operators who showed compassion towards students who were cash-strapped and in need of help. She said the gesture was something she would always remember.

UMP Campus Pantry – free food hub for students

In line with the aspiration of The Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDNHEP) in implementing the food pantry programme in public universities, Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) raised to the occasion by having its own UMP Campus Pantry to meet the necessities to students.

The programme was established on April 16, 2019.

Department of Student Affairs and Alumni, General Manager (JHEPA), Haryani Abdullah said students could now access the food pantry located in Gambang campus with plans to set up another one in its Pekan Campus.

"The food pantry is managed by volunteers from the Student Representative Council (MPP) and UMP Caring Club. They will receive the items and display the items at the allocated space.

"In order to ensure a systematic way of distributing the items, UMP has a record of the food or other items given out and the names of the students who received the items are also recorded.

"A special portal on UMP Campus Pantry has also been developed where visitors can obtain information about the programme and those who wish to make contributions, be it in cash or kind.

According to Mohamad Hanif Fitri Nordin, an executive member for welfare and out campus student services, the programme is a result of the efforts taken by the university in helping them to manage the food pantry programme.

He hoped that it would be fully utilised by students especially the needy ones so as to help ease their burden.

UMP Caring Club President Mohammad Aiman Mohd Amran said as volunteers, university students could contribute to the programme by providing funding.

He hoped that the programme would help instil the culture of contributing or donating among UMP commun-

ERAS volunteers joined forces with the local community and an environmental protection programme

By: SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

A total of 80 people consisting of staff from Earth Resources & Sustainability Centre (ERAS), Universiti Kebangsaan Bukit Setongkol pupils and members of the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) took part in a community service programme. The programme was held at a turtle hatchery centre, Rimbun Dahan Turtle Hatchery, in Chendor here on April 10, 2019.

According to ERAS Director, Associate Professor Dr. Muzamir Hassan, the programme could serve as an environmental service platform with volunteers taking time off from their daily routine and help to take care of the environment in the swamp area near the Chendor beach.

“They had the opportunity to their bit to protect the environment by planting mangrove saplings and they were exposed to the environment,” said Dr. Muzamir.

“They got good exposure and knowledge on matters involving the environment and the need to protect the environment from plastic waste and other polluted materials that can have adverse effects on the hatchery,” said Dr. Muzamir.

“The programme is also seen as a way to rebrand ERAS and UMP among the community and for ERAS to be seen as an entity, supporting the causes towards greening the earth,” said Dr. Muzamir.

“This programme is actually a continuation from a public lecture delivered by Dr. Maketab Mohamed titled ‘The Role of ERAS in Environmental Conservation & Advocacy’ on January 22.

“We were able to develop good ties with MNS and work together towards a common goal of protecting and conserving the environment,” said Dr. Muzamir.

The volunteers also got the opportunity to release 40 turtle hatchlings from the hatchery to the sea.

Stiff competition for 52 teams vying to be the best in the game of Hackathon

By: SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) organised its Fourth UMP Handball East Coast Championship that reflected the growth of the sport in the region. The tournament was held since 2016.

This year's game was organised by UMP Handball Club and UMP Sports Centre with the support of the Malaysia Handball Federation (JHEPA). It was held on April 14, 2019.

A total of 52 teams throughout Malaysia comprising 32 men's team and 20 women's team participated in the tournament. The tournament was organised by the Malaysia Handball Federation with referees from IHF and MAHF invited.

It was officially opened by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Yusarie Mamat.

Also present were Aznorizamin Ismail who is carrying out the duties of the Sports and Cultural Centre Director, Nur Adam Maximillian and Tournament Director, Mumtazah.

Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Yusarie also watched the opening match between the host team, UMP (Engineering) and Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UniMAP).

Mumtazah said this time around, the tournament received recognition from the MAHF as it met various requirements to be given five stars.

"It is also seen as a platform that is moving towards being a high-impact tournament especially in the preparation of the players. It provides a good experience for players while preparing for the Malaysia University Sport Council Championship (MASUM) and the Southeast Asian University Handball Championship (SUKIPT)," said Mumtazah.

Jerantut Handball team manager and national handball coach Shamshul Nizam Mohd Ali said this year's tournament was organised well and deserved to be given five stars as the host was able to provide suitable location, capable technical crew and referees.

JJ Boys Professional Club emerged as the champion for the men's category, after defeating the Haru Handball team.

The women's category was won by Perak Handball team who was the SUKMA 2018 champion. They b place went to Turtle Fighters (Terengganu).

The tournament's top scorer was Muhammad Fazrin Jamaluddin from the JJ Boys team with 46 while the Wahid from UMP (Elgineers) with 28.

Winners took home medals and cash money with the prizes presented by Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Yuserrie.

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