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**Ainex 2019: UMP's search talent platform for students to invent  
and eco-friendly products**

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Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)'s Advanced Innovation and Engineering Exhibition 2019 (AiNEX 2019) created by secondary and university students with this year's theme focusing on products that were cost-effective.

The event was organised by the university's Automotive Engineering Centre (AEC) and was held at Astaka.

It was officially opened by AEC Director, Associate Professor Dr. Abdul Adam Abdullah.

Among the guests present were UMP's Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)'s Kulliyah of Allied Health Sciences, lecturer Dr. Zafri Azra.

The competition was divided into three categories involving academicians, institutes of higher learning students and polytechnics and universities.

In his speech, Associate Professor Dr. Abdul Adam said the objective of the competition was to produce innovative products that can be commercialised by polytechnics and universities.

He added that it was a channel for them to be creative and innovative so they could come up with products that can be commercialised.

“This is the third time that we are organising the event which is part of our efforts to continue support research and high quality service in the fields of engineering and technology.

“At the same time, this programme will help to promote the acculturation of creativity and innovation among students.

“It is also the best platform for researchers to hone their talents and develop more competitive innovations and products.

The best overall award was won by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) student, Ahmad Nazrul Haniff, for his project ‘Natural Rubber (ENR): Modified Bitumen and Asphalt Mixture’, which involved modification of bitumen to reduce road damages.

He also won first place for the university student category and took home a certificate, medal and cash of RM1,000.

UMP's Faculty of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering won second place while Universiti Putra Malaysia won third place.

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For the school category, Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Abdul Rahman Talib (SMART), Kuantan won the first place while the second place went to Sekolah Menengah Sains (MRSM) Tun Abdul Razak, Pekan while the third place went to Sekolah Menengah Sains

Under the college category, Temerloh Vocational College emerged as the champion, Indera Mahkota MAR while Kuantan Vocational College was the second runner-up.

For the Commercialisation and Innovation Award, it was won by Temerloh Vocational College, Pahang through its 'AFI' while the Sekolah Menengah Sains Hulu Selangor in Batang Kali won the Innovative School Special

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## **ERAS & YMGS share geotechnical expertise via Career**

By: SAFUAN SHARIFF & MOHD HASHIM MOHD SAAD, EARTH RESOURCES & SUSTAINABILITY CENTRE

To highlight the important roles that future engineers have to shoulder, the Earth Resources & Sustainability Centre, Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), in collaboration with the Youth Wing of Malaysian Geotechnical Society (YMGS), recently organised a career day programme at the Astaka Hall of the former's campus in Gambang.

Themed "Own Your Future", the programme aimed to lend exposure and enlighten engineering students on the various roles and responsibilities of the Earth Resources & Sustainability Centre (FKASA) of the said roles – especially for the final year undergraduates, as they prepare themselves for the future.

According to ERAS Director, Associate Professor Dr. Muzamir Hasan, YMGS is the professional body of geotechnical engineers, which coordinates various activities domestically and abroad.

"This career day programme is an opportunity for FKASA students to expand their theoretical knowledge and gain practical information and best practices from an active professional body of local geotechnical engineers," highlighted the Chairman.

"Associating this programme with such professional body will also help highlight to the final year undergraduates the importance of geotechnical engineering – while simultaneously, boosting the quality and strategic marketability of UMP graduates to the related industry."

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At one of the programme sessions, Dr. Muzamir also shared his real life experience and research into the geotechnical properties of Kuantan Bauxite” – after the bauxite mining in Bukit Goh, Kuantan, fell under the spotlight of the media.

“To ensure the progress of our geotechnical expertise, ERAS has also collaborated with other international universities such as Yamaguchi University (YU),” said the YMGS Deputy Chairman, adding that YU has donated some RM65,000 to support its geotechnical-related studies.

Aside from YU, ERAS is in the second phase of geotechnical engineering cooperation with Asahi-Techno, Japan, for its technology and Super Well Point technical application – for infrastructure projects in both Malaysia and Japan.

YMGS Chairman and Director of Dr Toh & Associates Sdn. Bhd., Ir. Ong Yin Heo, was also present to share his experience and information on companies involved in the geotechnical industry.

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## **International-level exposure for UMP football team in Kunming**

By: MOHD. FARID ALI, UMP SPORTS AND CULTURE CENTRE

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) football team got some valuable experiences following their participation in the Kunming University of Science and Technology College Centre Culture and Sports Week that was held at the Kunming University of Science and Technology.

The event was held for 10 days beginning June 3 until June 12, 2019.

A total of 18 players were picked to play at the tournament which was part of their training and preparation for the upcoming season throughout this year and next year.

They were accompanied by their coach, Mohd Farid Md Ali.

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In the tournament, UMP FC beat Vietnam National University (VNU), netting four goals against their opponent.

However, they drew 1-1 with Myanmar Mandalay University (MU) and lost 0-4 to Yunnan Normal University and Souphannouvong University Laos.

According to Team Manager, Abu Sufian Mokhtar, the players not only gained good exposure from the learning atmosphere in KUST and its campus life as well the local culture.

Mohd Farid also said the opportunity to play against more experienced teams at the international level would be better players.

“We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the university for giving the opportunity for UMP athletes to be added.

The programme was organised by Centre for Sports and Culture, with the cooperation of the Office of The Rector, the Department of Student Affairs and Alumni (JHEPA).

The annual event organised by KUST is one of the international student exchange and mobility programmes.

The players not only got to experience playing against some of the best teams in Asia and South East Asia but also celebrating Aidilfitri in Kunming, China.

They were invited by the Malaysia Consulate General in Kunming to join the Aidilfitri celebration at the Malaysia Consulate. A joyous event indeed.

They also visited several popular attractions in the city such as the Green Lake, Golden Temple and pagoda, which were built during the Yuan Dynasty.

UMP officials who were among the delegation included International Office Director and Deputy Director, Azmir Mohd Azhari.

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