

# UMS needs to boost 'problem-solver' role

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) must produce innovations that would solve real industry problems in Sabah, said UMS vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin.

Taufiq said UMS should not be left behind but must contribute to the increasingly globalized era and looming industry revolutionized Sabah.

"Therefore, the main thing we need to do is focus on our ability to do research and development and

then produce innovations that is not just good on paper," he said.

"In addition, UMS will also need to enhance its efforts as a problem-solver for the real industry through the introduction of innovations, which will bring prosperity to the community and the country.

"As such, I hope all researchers put their energy into their own research with the best effort and creativity.

"For those involved in the industry, more innovations related to technology driven

business need to be pursued while enhancing collaboration with external parties," he stressed when officiating at the Research and Design Contest (PEREKA) 2019 at UMS here yesterday.

Taufiq said the important collaboration with industry players must be a win-win situation.

He added UMS is not only willing to provide its expertise and but also to invest some funds into the collaboration.

He also welcomed the industry players funding for research and

design development that would benefit the industry itself and community.

According to Deputy UMS vice chancellor (Academic & International) Associate Professor Ts Dr Ramzah Dambul, this year's 259 PEREKA participation is a 100-percent increase compared to last year.

He said amongst the 259 innovations, 20 food and beauty products that developed using Sabah commodity had already been grabbed by real industry players.



Taufiq (left), accompanied by Ramzah (right), beating the gong to mark the launch of PEREKA 2019 at UMS yesterday.