



Jafri (third right) presenting the mock check for the research grant to Dr Carolyn.

## UMS' Natural Disaster Research Centre receives grant

**TBP 22.07.2023 P.02**

**KOTA KINABALU:** The Natural Disaster Research Centre (NDRC) from Universiti Malaysia Sabah's (UMS) Faculty of Science and Natural Resources (FSSA) has received a research grant from the Malaysian Brain, Mind and Neuroscience Research Foundation (YPMNM) for the 1-2022 cycle.

YPMNM founder Prof Datuk Dr Jafri Malin Abdullah presented a mock cheque for the grant to NDRC director Prof Assoc Dr Carolyn Melissa Payus, witnessed by FSSA dean Prof Dr Jualang Azlan Gansau and YPMNM co-founder Prof Assoc Dr Durriyyah Sharifah Hasan Adli.

Speaking at the event, Jafri stated that one of the objectives of establishing the foundation

is to establish brain, mind and neuroscience research in Malaysia as a quality research that is internationally recognised.

"In addition, the foundation also provides financial aid and services as well as obtaining funds and donations for researchers who are active in conducting any research related to the brain, mind and neuroscience. This research grant is offered openly to researchers at institutions, centers or agencies, whether public or private, who are interested in carrying out research involving the field of neuroscience such as basic neuroscience, clinical neuroscience and applied neuroscience," he said.

Jafri added that for the 1-2022 cycle, YPMNM has received 20

applications from nine higher learning institutes.

However, he said only two winners successfully received the YPMNM grant, namely Dr Carolyn from UMS and Dr Wu Yuan Seng from Sunway University Malaysia.

Meanwhile, Jualang said he appreciates the opportunity and cooperation provided by YPMNM to UMS through the funding of the research project.

"It is hoped that through funding this research, it will create more opportunities for research collaboration in the future, especially in areas related to natural disasters as well as the relationship between mental health and socio-demographics," he said.

Dr Carolyn, as the project

leader, had carried out the research 'Mental Health in Climate Anxiety Analysis: Response to Extreme Weather Events due to Climate Change' with other researchers from UMS, namely Prof Dr Justin Sentian and Mohd Asyraf Refdin as well as Dr Siti Hayfsah Idris from University of Technology Mara (UiTM).

In the same event, the YPMNM delegation also visited the NDRC laboratory to see for themselves the earthquake activity monitoring system known as SEISCOMP3.

SEISCOMP3 system is a real-time earthquake monitoring system which is the result of a collaboration between NDRC and the Malaysian Meteorological Department since 2021.