

# UMS wins seven medals at International Exhibition

By FLORIETA DIET

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) has done the country and Sabah proud when their seven innovations won medals in the recent International Inventions Exhibition held in Geneva.

The university won a gold medal, five silvers and a bronze.

UMS convention and research management centre director Professor Dr Zainodin Hj Jubok when met at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport here yesterday said the university submitted eight inventions in the exhibition.

"This is a remarkable achievement as the works from 12 researchers comprising lecturers and students have been recognised internationally.

"The creations have managed to attract the attention of the judges who have to consider some 1,000 entries from 42 countries," he said adding that it was the first time UMS took part in the event.

The group was led by UMS vice-chancellor Prof Tan Sri Dr Abu Hassan Othman at the exhibition, the largest of its kind in the world. The exhibition held for five days beginning March 31, was introduced 10 years ago.

According to him, many researchers would submit their entries to the exhibition as it was the platform for their works to gain international recognition.

"If anyone wants their works recognised, the exhibition is the place to be," Dr Zainodin



**INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION... Dr Zainodin (left), Dr Sazali (right) and some of the team members showing the medals won at the Geneva exhibition.**

said.

The success, he said also endorsed UMS as an international institution as envisaged by the vice-chancellor.

He further said UMS would take part in the next exhibition if their works were recognised at national level.

Meanwhile Associate Professor and Dean of the School of IT and Engineering, Dr Sazali Yaacob was proud that researchers from the school bagged the gold and silver medals for their two creations.

Their project of using the oil palm shells to

help in purifying the air took the gold medal while a device to assist the blind took the silver.

"Both projects use local materials that involved low costs. We took five years to perfect the winning creation and four years to come out with the device that can help the 45 million blind people to know colours and objects," he said.

Dr Sazali said several companies from France, Poland and Switzerland had shown their interests in wanting to commercialise both creations.