

# Local Us come first in terms of journals



Dr Abrizah

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KOTA KINABALU: Malaysian Citation Centre Deputy Director, Associate Professor Dr Abrizah Abdullah, said Malaysian universities come in first in terms of publishing journals with a total of 257 publications.

"Indexed and High Impact Journals are one of the criteria in evaluating a university's ranking/status. Currently, there are 464 scholarly journals in Malaysia altogether, which include those not only published by universities but also by the government (96), associations (104) and private agencies (7).

She pointed out that there are no problems in terms of accessing international journals but one can face difficulties in terms of accessing Malaysian journals.

Abrizah said this at an Indexed and High Impact Journals workshop held at Universiti Malaysia Sabah's (UMS) Media and Technology education unit, here, Tuesday.

Other information shared included problems faced by publishers, authors/researchers and librarians.

Meanwhile, prior to the workshop, Head of Librarian from Universiti Malaysia Sabah's library, Dg Rukiah Ag Damit, who officiated on behalf of Vice Chancellor, Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon, said: "I hope that after this, those who have attended this workshop will be able to assist in terms of providing analysis for journal publications at the universities where they carry out their duties.

"I think this workshop is very suitable because as we all know, the Malaysian Government gives priority to research and innovation-based activities which has been carried out by local universities as a way to develop the country's economy."

The Ministry of Higher Education developed the Malaysia Research Assessment (MyRA) to enable universities to evaluate the achievements of a local university in the aspect of R&D&C (Research, Development and Commercialisation).

The increasing number of public universities today adds value to the development of higher learning institutions.

This increase serves as a healthy competition which covers even private universities who are keen on proving themselves by accomplishing high levels of recognition.

According to Kamaruzaman, this is an important issue as it gives impact to the quality of research and academic writing of a university.

Another factor which strengthens this is the presence of "Apex University" or Apex status which stands for Accelerated Programme for Excellence.

"Universities need to compete with each other to maintain this recognition. One of the things that has been mentioned was on publishing high impact journals on a chosen data bank."

He added that MyRA can be used by institutions of higher learning to observe the achievements and conduct evaluations of researches done on an annual basis. The result of the research must be documented/published in the country as well as outside of the country, especially university publications in the form of indexed journals.



Some of the participants of the workshop.