



UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah presenting the award to one of the recipients yesterday.

Innovation, sustainability will steer UMS towards excellence — VC

BP 6.5.2016 2
KOTA KINABALU: The three main factors that will steer Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) towards further excellence are innovation, relevance and sustainability.

According to UMS vice chancellor, Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah at the University's 2015 Excellence Award Ceremony held at the Kompleks Dewan Kuliah Pusat-2 near here yesterday, universities play key roles in carrying out research activities.

He said several universities in Malaysia had carried out successful research activities, and among them Universiti Malaysia Perlis which has created a green house technology that enables the year-long production of the Harumanis mango.

Prior to the use of the technology, the Harumanis mango was only produced in April and in May every year.

"This is an example of how a university can implement the culture of innovation for the benefit for its citizens and the surrounding community," he said.

Dr Harun also said that UMS was now 22 years old and that it was imperative for it to remain competitive and relevant.

"One of my initiatives is to raise the image of the university at the world arena," he said.

He added that UMS was among

the Top 200 QS: World University Ranking by Subject in the agriculture and forestry sector.

He also said that UMS had established two international satellite branches in Heilongjiang Academy of Science in Harbin, China and Kandai University in Japan.

He said that the achievements thus far were not enough and that UMS must attain its Key Performance Index as well as achieve the objective set by the Higher Learning Ministry under the Malaysia Education Development Plan: Higher Education (PPPM-PT).

On the issue of sustainability, Dr Harun said that the EcoCampus idea introduced three years ago had altered the thinking landscape of the UMS citizens.

He added that a lot of initiative was implemented towards the University's EcoCampus idea such as Eco-tourism, Eco-Awareness Week, Eco Recycling Centre and the latest, the Eco Farm which would be implemented on 74 acres of UMS property in Apin-Apin, Keningau with industry players.

He said that the EcoCampus idea was beneficial as it taught them to be frugal in the use of resources such as water, paper, electricity and energy.

Meanwhile, a total of 551 UMS employees were presented with various awards during the ceremony yesterday.