



Prof Dr Sharif presenting the Best Project Head award to Awina Kamiş of Nexus. Her team also won first place and took home the Best Innovation (Management) Award at the UMS ICC Convention on Tuesday.

Teams Nexus and Techkal bag UMS prizes

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) yesterday held its second Innovative and Creative Circle (ICC) Convention which saw eight inventions being submitted to vie for the annual event's title.

The ICC Convention introduced last year was aimed to promote creativity and innovativeness among the UMS community by providing the staff a platform to showcase their inventions.

Seven teams competed in two categories with team Nexus bagging the first prize and the Best Innovation

award for the Management category while team Techkal won first place and the Best Innovation award in the Technical category.

Nexus developed a staff recruitment system that has helped the University fill 96 percent of the vacancies available as of August, a significant increase compared to the 74 percent under the previous system.

Techkal's invention, the Transparent Pad Project, was simpler but no less significant as it has the potential of significantly reducing the cost of installing notice boards at administration offices and the students' residential complex.

The group also took home the third prize in the same category through another project where they developed a system that helps improve the quality of pipe water at students residential complex by up to 80 percent cleaner.

Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk Seri Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon said the Convention last year focused more on finding solutions to main issues faced by departments and organizations in UMS.

This year, he said the event was more towards encouraging organization members to create and invent new ideas without being confined to only solving existing problems faced

by their departments.

"The innovation is not limited to one particular field but is open to various disciplines, countries or races. It includes new methods, products or services that could help improve the quality or productivity of an organization," he said.

UMSLabuan International Campus director Prof Dr Sharif A K Omang who officiated the convention on behalf of Kamaruzaman, suggested the university should expand the event and invite participations from other higher learning institutions.