

Conference acknowledges contribution of teachers, researchers

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KOTA KINABALU: The ninth Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) International Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Conference (SMTEC) 2017 acknowledges the contribution of teachers and researchers in human development.

Vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin said teachers' and researchers' contribution was a key aspect in producing knowledgeable and skilled youths to boost economic activities that benefit society as a whole.

"In honouring the teaching profession through academic activities, SMTEC 2017 acknowledges the role of educators and academicians in nurturing future generations to become productive members of society.

"This year's SMTEC is themed 'Sustaining Science, Mathematics and Technology Education for Future Generations,' which echoes aptly the vision and mission of this institution.

"The learning, teaching, research and publications in



Dr Rasid presenting Curtin University Conference convenor Rekha Koul with a memento after opening the UMS International Science, Mathematics and Technology Education Conference (SMTEC) 2017.

these fields are positioned for UMS to become an innovative university," he said in his welcoming address during the opening of the conference, yesterday.

However, his speech was delivered by acting deputy vice chancellor (academic and international) Professor Dr Rasid Mail.

Dr Kamarudin added that although the goal was to achieve material gains from science, mathematics and technology education, producing holistic future generations with solid moral values should also be a priority.

"As we endeavour to achieve these goals, we must also

strive to mould assertive, open-minded and patriotic individuals.

"These elements are essential to ensure a society that is able to sustain itself through rigorous development and change.

"Without these characteristics, future generations would be without soul and vigour, giving rise to a likelihood we do not want and should prevent," he said.

The conference, envisioned as contributing to the transformation of teaching into a profession of choice, was attended by 120 participants and 68 keynote speakers, from UMS and Curtin University Australia.