

Research culture is UMS's top priority – Kamarudin



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Dr Kamarudin (seated centre) in a group photo with Shahril (seated 2nd left), Lee (seated left) and the award recipients

By MARRYAN RAZAN

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) received RM5.4 million last year to fund 49 research projects.

Vice-chancellor Prof Dr Kamarudin D Mudin said the research grant from the government amounted to RM3.6 million while RM558,000 and RM1.2 million were provided by the private sector and international institutions, respectively.

He said making available quality facilities to conduct research was a top priority of

the university.

Speaking at the UMS Research Award presentation here yesterday, Dr Kamarudin said apart from giving recognition to research work, the university also encouraged a 'research culture' among its students.

"For instance, the university allocates RM2 million in research grant annually known as the UMS research grant scheme.

"And last year, we introduced a research collaboration grant and for a start we will collaborate with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak to conduct

research," he said.

Dr Kamarudin expressed the hope that this collaboration grant would enhance the quality of research and image of university at the international level.

He also said the university currently has 15 products under intellectual property protection.

According to him, a private company Syarikat Villaco Sdn Bhd was currently paying the university a licence fee of RM80,000 annually for a period of five years to use the LAMB Biomass Dryer which was produced by Dr Jidon @

Adrian Janaun.

Meanwhile, he said that last year the university won four gold medals for research and innovation at the national and international levels.

"We also won special awards at ITEX 2016, BIO Malaysia 2016 and SIIF 2016," he said, adding that UMS had published 441 articles in the SCOPUS and ISI journals in 2016.

Also present yesterday were UMS deputy vice-chancellor Prof Dr Shahril Yusof and Research and Innovation Centre director Prof Madya Dr Lee Ping Chin.