

UMS still lacks high-impact publications, says VC



Prof Kamaruzaman

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KOTA KINABALU: Academicians and researchers in Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) are still not producing enough high-impact publications, said its Vice Chancellor Datuk Dr Kamaruzaman Hj Ampon.

He said last year only 30 out of the 600 researchers in the university were actively involved in producing high-impact publications. Out of 400 publications, only 40 were considered significant journals.

"The publication of such journals, which are based on research, is the main criteria in deciding the quality of a researcher. Thus all researchers need to double their effort in producing more quality results," he said.

He was speaking at the UMS Researchers Appreciation Night held at a hotel here on Tuesday, where he presented awards and incentives to 22 researchers from the univer-

sity.

Kamaruzaman said the culture of research should be imbued among all the citizens of the university to achieve its target to become a research university in the nearest future.

Towards this end he commended the efforts made by those in making the university well known through various research product competitions held within the country as well as abroad.

He said the university excelled in competitions such as the Malaysia Technology Expo, MTE 2009, Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibition, ITEX 2009, BioMalaysia Exhibition 2009, Research and Invention Expo, PECIPTA 2009 as well as competitions in Geneva, Switzerland and Seoul, Korea on December 2009.

"I hope the products which received recognition from within and abroad would be com-

mercialised through smart collaboration with representatives from the industries," he said.

According to Kamaruzaman, from 2006 to 2009, a total of 262 UMS lecturers were actively involved as head researchers in 373 research projects, which involved a funding of RM29 million.

In 2009, UMS acquired research grants in various fields valued at RM1.7 million from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's Sciencefund, RM0.6 million from the Higher Education Ministry's Fundamental Research Grants Scheme and RM3.2 million from other sources.

Also present were UMS Board of Director member, Datuk Dr Beatrice Beth Baikan, Deputy Vice Chancellors, Prof Dr Rosnah Ismail, Prof Dr Amran Ahmed and Prof Dr Hj Kasim Hj Mansur, other officers and researchers.