

UMS to highlight green innovations at IGEM 2019 Oct 9-11

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) via the Eco-Campus Management Centre held a presentation and brainstorming session on innovation projects based on green technology towards environmental sustainability for Sabah Deputy State Secretary (Development) Patrick Tan @ Tan Su Teck and his entourage at UMS Chancellor Building, recently.

The purpose of the special session was to crystallize green innovation projects that will be exhibited under the Sabah State Government Booth at the 'International GreenTech and Eco Product Exhibition and Conference Malaysia (IGEM) 2019' on October 9-11 at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Berhaman Ahmad, Director of the EcoCampus Management Centre emphasised on the importance of UMS as a higher learning institution in Sabah to spearhead innovations that are able to

solve local societal problems and issues based on sound researches which are eventually enhanced through proactive and comprehensive commercialisation.

The aspiration is very much in tandem with the UMS EcoCampus Agenda being upheld since 2013 for UMS to continue to function as a reference point for local and regional sustainable development, and to defend its recognition as one of the top 10 per cent most sustainable university campuses in the world for 2018 (at the 71st ranking in the world from 719 university campuses from 81 nations).

IGEM which is annually organised by the Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment, and Climate Change (MESTECC) Malaysia becomes a very good platform to highlight green innovation projects, both from Malaysia and outside of Malaysia with targeted 350 exhibition booths and 350,000 visitors

for 2019 from government agencies, private sector, and multinational conglomerate firms in the fields of green technology and environmental sustainability.

IGEM covers main sections, namely Energy, Manufacturing, Transportation, Construction, Waste Management, and Water Management; but in conjunction with its 10th anniversary this year, IGEM will include exhibitions on Information and Communication Technology, Agriculture, and Biodiversity.

Meanwhile, Tan shared his view that green innovation projects – which are able to showcase advantages in comparison with existing products and systems in terms of quality, cost, time, and process easiness – can be integrated into community development sector, especially in Kota Kinabalu City and its surroundings.

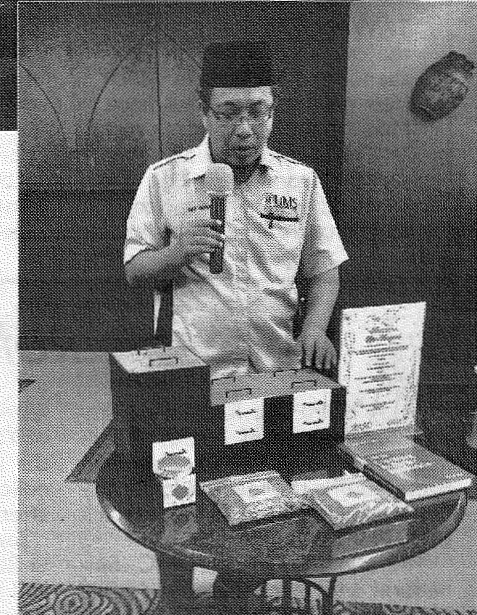
Advantages that are able to be shown and proven will proffer much required and imperative competitiveness for the green innovation products to be accepted by local end users, and even to penetrate global market in an assortment of direct and indirect sectors.

Two green innovation projects to be exhibited under the Sabah State Government Booth at IGEM 2019 to be led by the Deputy State Secretary (Development) Sabah Office are from UMS: 'Edible Active Food Packaging and Coating-Based Bioplastic' led by Dr. Joko Sulisty (Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition), and 'UMS Organic Compost: Active Zone-Yielded Composter' led Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abu Zahrim Yaser (Faculty of Engineering).

The innovation project from Dr. Joko Sulisty and his team produces prototype of food packaging via two



TOP PHOTO:
Dr Joko delivering his presentation on his green innovation project named 'Edible Active Food Packaging and Coating-Based Bioplastic'.



RIGHT PHOTO:
Assoc. Prof. Dr Abu Zahrim Yaser during his presentation on his 'UMS Organic Compost: Active Zone-Yielded Composter' green innovation project.



Tan (third left) receiving a token of appreciation from Berhaman (third right).

environmentally friendly ways – edible coating of food, and easily degradable packaging material for food, while the project from Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abu Zahrim Yaser and team produces prototype of organic waste composting system which generates compost fast without creating odour, as well as without using electricity and additional microbes, be-

sides making compost with high content of nitrogen, and is safe for plants (in terms of phytotoxicity).

Also present at the special session were Mr. Kelvin Kueh Boon Hee, Deputy Director of the EcoCampus Management Centre, and Mr. Sahari Aliomar, Head of the Assistant Secretary of the Deputy State Secretary (Development) Sabah Office.