



Rozali Ismail (left) and Nik Mustapha R Abdullah say ICOT is what Malaysians need to cultivate potential

## FORUMS

# In search of hidden talents

■ By **NURJEHAN MOHAMED**

A GLOBAL forum on thinking is coming to Malaysia.

Covering a myriad of topics including health, education, management, politics, the environment and media, the 14th International Conference on Thinking (ICOT) will serve as a showcase for the presentation of more than 200 papers and workshops from keynote speakers, plenary speakers, featured speakers and other esteemed presenters.

The theme of the conference this year is Thinking Minds: Nurturing the Design of a Better Future.

Universiti Putra Malaysia, which is hosting the conference, is calling for papers, participation and

sponsorship.

UPM vice chancellor Professor Datuk Nik Mustapha R Abdullah says: "(This) is the opportunity to learn from great minds and renowned thinkers about the actual creative sciences of thinking, and (to) introduce Malaysians to different methodologies of mental exploration by 'think tanks' from across the globe."

All invited speakers are lending their expertise pro bono as part of their social responsibility efforts (ICOT is a non-profit organisation).

Nik Mustapha adds he hopes the conference will ensure Malaysia's reputation as an excellent education hub, an innovative society and a reliable and profitable investment-based country in Southeast Asia.

"The 14th ICOT is a fresh mandate for us to rebrand Malaysia and charter a fresh approach for international recognition," he says.

Pro chancellor Tan Sri Rozali Ismail says, "this is exactly what we need in Malaysia — not only to think 'out of the box' but also to search for hidden talents and cultivate potential."

Malaysians must think locally but act globally if they want to survive the current economic turmoil.

The conference will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from June 22-26. Visit [www.14ththinkingconference.com](http://www.14ththinkingconference.com) for details.