

UPM faculty gets autonomy

KUALA LUMPUR: The Higher Education Ministry yesterday endorsed the Putra Business School (PBS) as an autonomous business school, which will give it greater freedom in student and faculty selection.

Universiti Putra Malaysia Vice-Chancellor Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi said the endorsement would allow PBS to build a better relationship with Malaysia's business community.

"We hope to build a more industry-based programme, where our faculty will be drawn from those with many years of experience in the industry rather than among those from the academic community.

"We want to bring the business world into the classroom," he said after receiving the certificate of endorsement from Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Khaled Nordin at a ceremony here yesterday.

The ceremony was also to recognise UPM's achievement as the first institution in the country to receive an accreditation from the Associ-



Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi (right) receiving the certificate of endorsement from Datuk Seri Khaled Nordin. Pic by Hasriyasyah Sabudin

ation to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

Khaled said the accreditation for UPM's Economic and Management Faculty and PBS was the sixth awarded to an institution in South-east Asia.

"The accreditation shows that we are among the best business schools

at the regional and international level.

"With this achievement, I hope UPM will take the lead in guiding the development of other business schools in the country," he said after receiving a token of appreciation from AACSB president and chief executive officer John J. Fernandes.