

Opportunity for young scientists

SELECTED: They will interact with world's great minds

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YOUNG scientists will get the chance of a lifetime to interact with great scientific minds from across the globe.

Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) president Tan Sri Ahmad Tajuddin

Ali said he saw the participation in the programmes as a passage to develop the minds of young scientists and students and interact with other great minds from around the world.

"By providing them the opportunity to acquire knowledge within a multicultural environment, they will find this to be an extremely enriching experience," he said when announcing Malaysia's participation in the 63rd Lindau Nobel Laureates meeting in Germany.

ASM is sending a delegation of four young Malaysian scientists who are dedicated to learn from the Nobel Laureates to better themselves in their respective fields.

The students are Dr Irene Ling, Dr Wong Pei Meng and Noor Idayu Mat Zahid from Universiti Malaya (UM) and PhD student Sivasangar Seenivasagam from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Wong, a senior lecturer in UM, said she was honoured to be able to broaden her area of expertise in chemistry, citing it as a stepping stone in her career.

"As a fellow scientist and educator, I hope to set an example for future researchers and

my students," she said.

In addition, another delegation of three young scientists have been selected to participate in the summer student programme in Geneva, Switzerland, for two months.

The summer programme is in the European Council for Nuclear Research (CERN), one of the largest centres for scientific research and particle physics.

The students are Nurfikri Norjoharuddeen from UM, Hoh Siew from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), and Dhiyauddin Ahmad Fauzi from the International Islamic University Malaysia (UIA).

Dhiyauddin, 24, an undergraduate in mechatronics engineering, said he was excited to be involved in the programme as he believed obtaining key knowledge was part of the key elements of success.

"Since my desire is to become a lecturer, I must broaden my perspective and hopefully inspire others to do the same."

About 42 Malaysian students have participated in the Lindau Meeting since 2004 while three students have participated in the CERN Summer Programme since last year.

Among those present yesterday were ASM senior fellow and delegation leader to the Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting Professor Datuk V.G. Kumar Das Govinda Panicker, member of CERN summer programme selection Professor Datuk Dr Muhammad Yahaya and chairman of the 2013 Lindau Programme selection panel Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor.



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Ahmad Tajuddin Ali