UNIVERSITI Putra Malaysia (UPM), together with the Information and Higher Education ministries, will be organising Peniti V 2008, a public-speaking competition in Bahasa Malaysia on Feb 16 and 17.

The event will be held at UPM's Dewan Harmoni Kolej Kelima.

One of the main objectives of the event is to hone leadership traits and enhance the soft skills of students pursuing tertiary education in local public universities.

The competition also aims to enhance usage of the national language.

Local public institutions of higher learning are encouraged to send at least two participants each.

This year’s speeches will revolve around themes focusing on global leadership issues, patriotic values and current affairs.

Prizes worth more than RM2,000 in cash and kind will be awarded to the top three winners, who will also take home trophies and participation certificates.

For details, call Mohd Abdullah Ramli (017-543 5420) or Preeta Pervushothama Nair (012-332 5776), or visit www.k5.upm.edu.my/peniti