

Youth to learn from the best

Nine M'sians to meet leading scientists at international programmes

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PETALING JAYA: Nine of the country's brightest earned the opportunity of a lifetime to meet and learn from international award-winning scientists.

The young scientists will attend the Lindau Nobel Laureate meeting, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) Summer Student Programme and IIASA Young Scientist Summer Programme.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) researcher Liew Peng Yen, who will be attending the Lindau Nobel Laureate meeting, said participants would be able to learn not

only about the laureate's field of studies but also about how they became successful.

"We can learn how to implement our research and make money through it.

"This is very important as many of our researchers are locked to their desks and they submit their work to journals but nothing comes out of it. Perhaps we can learn from the successful scientists on how to achieve what they have. We might not win awards but we could still strive to achieve success," he said.

This year, the meeting will be interdisciplinary: Nobel Laureate winners from the fields of chemistry, physics and physiology or medicine will be present.

This only happens once in five years as a rotation system between the different fields is followed in other years.

Four other participants at the meeting are Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) Pharmacology lecturer Dr Chin Kok Yong, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) senior lecturer of Physics Dr Amirah Abd Latif, UPM senior lecturer of chemistry Dr Haslina Ahmad and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) senior lecturer in medical oncology Dr Oon Chern Ein.

Three lucky young scientists will be spending two months at CERN, where they will be working and learning alongside some of the best scientists in the field.

The participants are University Malaya Masters in Physics student Nur Zulaiha Jomhari, UPM Bachelor in Science (Physics) student Muhammad Khairul Adib Muhammad Yusof and Multimedia University Bachelor in Electronics (Nanotechnology) student Wong Wei Wen.

UTM postgraduate student Tan Sie Ting will be participating in the three-month IIASA programme in the field of environmental engineering, where she will be working under the supervision of experienced scientists to conduct research on solid waste management.

The selection and vetting of the participants were carried out by Academy of Sciences Malaysia.

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Liew Peng Yen