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Professor Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi (centre) presenting the award to MYSA 2008 winner Puteri Shafinaz Akmar Abdul Rahman. At left is Stanley Hoh of Merck Sdn Bhd.

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KUALA LUMPUR: Puteri Shafinaz Akmar Abdul Rahman from Universiti Malaya bagged the coveted Merck Young Scientist Award (MYSA) 2008 trophy recently.

She also walked away with RM5,000 cash with her winning research titled "Expression of high abundance proteins in sera patients with endometrial and cervical cancers: Analysis using 2-DE with silver staining and lectin detection method".

The MYSA 2008 ceremony was to give recognition to five

outstanding young scientists for their contributions in bio-science research.

The awards ceremony was graced by Higher Education director general Professor Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi, who represented Deputy Higher Education Minister Dr Hou Kok Chung.

The second prize award of RM3,000 went to Chang Li Yen, also from Universiti Malaya, for her paper on "Human Neuronal cell protein responses to Nipah virus infection".

Chin Chui Yoke from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia took home the third prize of RM1,500, while Tang Kah Fai of Universiti Putra Malaysia and Ramaprabha Appanna of Universiti Malaya walked away with a consolation prize each for their noteworthy research work.

The MYSA 2008, organised by Merck Sdn Bhd in collaboration with US-based RMD Chemicals Inc (both are subsidiaries of Merck KGaA), was launched in February this year.