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**Well done:**  
Radin  
(middle)  
presenting  
the award to  
Puteri  
Shafinaz as  
Stanley Hoh  
of Merck  
looks on.

# Five young scientists recognised

### Awards given out at inaugural event

**M**ERCK Sdn Bhd held its inaugural Merck Young Scientist Award (MYSA) 2008 ceremony recently to recognise five outstanding young scientists for their contributions in Bioscience research.

The ceremony was attended by the Higher Education Ministry director-general Datuk Prof Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi, who represented the Deputy Higher Education Minister Dr Hou Kok Chung.

Also present were senior officials from the ministry, the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry and academics from local institutions of higher learning.

Puteri Shafinaz Akmar Abdul Rahman from Universiti Malaya bagged the coveted RM5,000 prize money and the Merck Young Scientist award with her winning research paper entitled "Expression of high abundance proteins in sera patients with endometrial and cervical

cancers: Analysis using 2-DE with silver staining and lectin detection methods."

Puteri Shafinaz's paper explored the use of proteomics technologies to unravel newly-detected biomarkers to discriminate the different types of cancers and their stages in monitoring the progress of treatment.

The second prize 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 A. Ramaprabha of Universiti Malaya walked away with a consolation prize each for their noteworthy research work.

The awards was launched in early February to encourage and honour homegrown research and development excellence in biosciences.