

RM1mil boost for UPM's coffers

by Kristene Silva Marie newsdesk@thesundaily.com

UNIVERSITI Putra Malaysia (UPM) recently received RM1 million from Asiatic Development Sdn Bhd to fund its research and educational programmes, and to grant scholarships under the name of late businessman and tycoon Tan Sri (Dr) Lim Goh Tong.

The scholarships are to overcome financial difficulties faced by deserving students and are open to those pursuing agricultural studies degrees at UPM.

Student Azlan Saliman was selected as the first recipient of the scholarship.

Asiatic Development chief executive officer Tan Sri Datuk Lim Kok Thay said the company was proud and honoured to be associated with one of the nation's leading universities recognised for excellence in the field of agriculture and research.

He said this in reference to Asiatic's biotechnology initiatives carried out through its centre of excellence in genomic science, Asiatic Centre for Genome Technology Sdn Bhd.

UPM Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Nik Mustapha R. Abdullah said research in the oil palm industry is very important and challenging.

"We are collaborating closely with industry players to ensure the research outputs can help the industry ascend to greater dimensions of success and excellence," he said.

Lim hands over the scholarship to Azlan as Nik Mustapha and UPM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) Prof Dr Abu Bakar Salleh (right), look