

5 scientists to attend Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting

KUALA LUMPUR: Five young scientists will represent Malaysia at the annual Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Lindau, Germany, while three undergraduate students will attend the European Organisation for Nuclear Research Summer Student Programme (CSSP) in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Lindau group comprises Dr Lim Kok Sing from Universiti Malaya (UM), Dr Suhaila Sepeal and Dr Tan Sin Tee from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), and Dr Yap Wing Fen and Dr Farah Diana Muhammad from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

They will be at the meeting from June 26 to July 1, exchanging knowledge with other scientists, listening to Nobel Laureates' lectures, participating in panel discussions and interacting with Nobel Laureates.

Muhammad Safwan Zaini from UPM, Muhammad Amirullah Miswan from UKM and Chin Yuk Ming from Universiti Malaysia Perlis will

attend the CSSP.

At the CSSP, the undergraduate students of physics, computing and engineering will join the day-to-day work of Cern's research teams and participate in experiments at Cern's facilities in Geneva.

Chin, 25, a Materials Engineering student, was surprised to be selected as he was the only engineering student among physics candidates.

During his eight weeks in Geneva, Chin will participate in a project on bacteria characterisation on new materials using Large Hadron Collider (LHC) detectors.

"I will be collaborating with other researchers from my background. I am looking forward to the sharing sessions. I am excited to try new things and bring what I will gain there back to Malaysia," he said.

During the announcement of the Malaysian delegations to the Lindau meeting and Cern programme at the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) yesterday, its pres-



Academy of Sciences Malaysia president Tan Sri Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali (third from left) with some of the Malaysian delegates to the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting and CSSB programme yesterday. Pic by Halim Salleh

ident, Tan Sri Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali, said ASM emphasised the need to invest in young scientists and researchers.

"Through our international links,

young Malaysian scientists have the opportunity to participate in impactful international research programmes and to interact with global scientific minds," he said.

Yesterday's event also witnessed a mock-cheque presentation of "Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh (RBS) Medical Research Trust Fund" grants for last year.

The trust fund was established to promote medical and bio-medical research in Malaysia.

The Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry was appointed as the custodian and ASM was entrusted to implement programmes under the trust fund.

The RBS research grant, worth RM30,000, was presented to Dr Dharmani Devi Murugan from UM, while the RBS grant for research workshop, worth RM50,000, was given to Associate Professor Dr Abdul Manaf Hashim from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

Dr Dharmani's research title is "Mechanism of actions of a potential antihypersensitive peptide", while Dr Manaf's workshop is on "Biocompatible Nanomaterials and Nanodevices for Bio-Medical applications".