

ICAN 2018 AWARDS

Leveraging on industry and community relations

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UNIVERSITI Putra Malaysia (UPM) will continue to foster collaborations with industries and communities in programmes that are both impactful to its own development as well as its strategic partners.

"In-line with UPM's motto 'With knowledge, we serve', we want to serve the community and industry. It's a win-win situation with the industries we work with, as we can collaborate, and whatever outcomes we get from the research, we will channel it to the community," said its vice-chancellor, Datin Paduka Professor Dr Aini Ideris at UPM's Industry and Community Appreciation event (ICAN 2018) in Putrajaya recently.

Held for the seventh time, the annual event was organised by the UPM Industry and Community Network office, and sought to recognise efforts and high impact cooperation by UPM staff and lecturers together with industry partners, non-governmental organisations, government agencies and the community.

Throughout last year, UPM successfully established networks of cooperation with 5,026 industry players and 836 communities. Of the amount, 70 industry networks and 66 community projects were categorised as high impact.

"The reason we focus on helping the community is because we want to share the outcomes and benefits that we get from our research with the community and industry," said Aini.

The ICAN programme is also of benefit to UPM students.

"This programme helps students gain valuable experience, such as field training, communication and networking with community members. They can also be involved in research activities," said Aini.

This year, ICAN witnessed three main categories: Industry, Community, and "Pusat Tanggungjawab" (PTJ), which are departments authorised to manage public money.

The award recipient for "Best Industrial Partner" under the industry category was The Coca Cola Company.

Under the Industrial Network Project (Academic Staff), the top award went to Professor Dr Mohd Hair Bejo for his research into transforming workforce response to infectious diseases.

Under the community category, the "Best Community Partner" award went to the Kampung Pulau Semut Village Development and Security Committee.

Under the same category, the Community Network Project (Academic Staff) award went to Associate Professor Latifah Abd Manaf for her project into empowering the Kundasang community in Sabah through the establishment of a garbage bank.

Also under the community category, the "Best Industrial Network Project (Non-Academic Staff)" award was won by Che Zailawati Abd Ghani for a programme to strengthen interest in mathematics among rural secondary school students in Selangor.

The Best Industrial Network Project (Student) award went to Muhammad Zakwan Azizan for



Genting Plantations Bhd president and chief operating officer Tan Wee Kok presenting a scholarship to Universiti Putra Malaysia student Syazwan Nur Hakim Muhammad Arif at the Industry and Community Appreciation (ICAN) event in Putrajaya. Looking on is UPM vice-chancellor Datin Paduka Professor Dr Aini Ideris (left).



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AINI IDERIS
Vice-chancellor



ICAN 2018 award recipients.

"Le Tour of Science".

Awards under the PTJ category went to the Faculty of Medicine and Health Science and Institute of Tropical Forestry and Forest Products.

At the event, Syazwan Nur Hakim Muhammad Arif, 20, who is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in agricultural science, received a scholarship from the Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong Endowment Fund. The scholarship was presented by Genting Plantations Bhd president and chief operating officer Tan Wee Kok. The scholarship is an annual initiative by Genting Plantations, and has been given out since 2009.

"Genting Plantations knows the importance of the agriculture industry. We want to make the industry and our economy better by helping students with potential further their studies in re-

lated fields," said Tan.

This scholarship is given only to first year students who are pursuing their studies in agriculture, with the aim of nurturing new talents in the oil palm industry.

"A great cumulative grade point average, active in the university's co-curricula activities and currently studying in the agriculture field were some of the criteria that we looked at when choosing the recipient," he said.

He added that Genting Plantations would welcome UPM students for both internship and careers.

"I come from an underprivileged family, so this scholarship will help ease my family's burden. I believe that this scholarship will also help me excel in the future," said Syazwan.