## UMP - THE Champion of MTUN Sports Championship 2011

niversiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) emerged as the overall champion of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inter-Technical Varsity Sports Championship which was held for four days at UMP Sports Complex in Gambang on December 18, 2011.

Four technical universities - UMP, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM), Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) and Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) – took part in the championship. The universities formed the country's technical universities network or MTUN.

Among the events held were volleyball (men/women), 'sepak takraw' (staff/students/teams), futsal (staff /students), basketball and netball (staff/students).

UMP garnered 54 points, beating UTHM with 38, followed by UniMAP (36) and UTeM (29).

UMP won in volleyball (women), futsal (staff and students), 'sepak takraw' (students) and basketball.

The official opening and closing ceremonies were performed by the Higher Education Ministry's sports division secretary Dr Saharudin Haji Ismail who said the championship was a means to foster cooperation and friendship among participants.

He also said MTUN was a medium to highlight talents in the nation's universities and provide the opportunity for participants to compete in a healthy manner as well as learn and get to know each other better.

"It is in line with the Institutes of Higher Learning Sports Development Policy (DPSIPT) which is to produce 'The Thinking Athlete(s)'.

"The target is to have 30% of the nation's athletes from among athletes in the institutes of higher learning by 2015. A



sound development calls for a balance in sports and academic performances in generating professional and competitive graduates for domestic and international markets," he added.

Sports Centre Head, Jasni Ladin also handed over the championship's flag to UTeM Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Engr Profesor Dr Marizan Sulaiman which served as a symbolic gesture to UTeM which was picked as the host for the next game.

Also present was UMP Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Profesor Dr Yuserrie Zainuddin.

It was a joyous occasion when the MTUN sports championship flag was hoisted by cadet officers from UMP's PALAPES and TLDM units.