

FIST ORGANISED ICONT CONFERENCE ON NANO TECHNOLOGY



The discovery of nano structural material that is applied to electronic goods, energy conservation, health care and environment preservation has attracted the interest of scientists and engineers today in conducting research studies in nano material science and engineering.

As such, an International Conference on Nano Technology 2012 (ICONT 2012) organised by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)'s Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology (FIST), together with SIRIM Berhad and Pahang State Government, was a timely move.

It was the right time to do so in a bid to improve research and development activities in nano technology as well as the conference being a platform where exchange of

latest findings in the field could take place among the participants.

The conference attracted 149 participants from 16 countries - Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, Japan, Korea, the US, India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Sweden, Russia, United Kingdom, Oman and Austria.

It was officially closed by Information, Science, Technology and Innovation State Committee Chairman, Dato' Haji Mohd Sharkar Shamsudin on May 30, 2012.

Also present were SIRIM Berhad President and Chief Executive, Dr. Zainal Abidin Yusof, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dato' Dr Rosli Mohd Yunus, FIST Dean, Professor Dr Mashitah Mohd Yusoff and ICONT 2012 Conference Chairman, Professor Dr

Jose Rajan.

In his speech, Dato' Haji Mohd Sharkar said the conference was in line with the government's objective, as stated in the Malaysian Plan, which was to encourage growth of various sectors in science and technology.

"Under the human resource development plan, research scientists and engineers (RSE) can help realise the Industrial Master Plan and with the involvement of UMP and cooperation provided by the state government, it will spur economic growth in nano technology for the East Coast Economic Region (ECER)," he added.

He was also grateful with the cooperation given by UMP in realising the state's Biodiversity-Biotechnology Strategic Action Plan.



Speaking at the event held at MS Garden Hotel in Kuantan, Dato' Haji Mohd Sharkar said he was proud to see UMP taking equal role in gathering the experts and researchers for it would definitely create a new perspective in discussing the challenges of the future in nano technology.

He also announced that Menteri Besar Pahang, Dato' Sri Diraja Haji Adnan Haji Yaakob had approved a sum of RM20,000 as a show of support by the state government to the hard work of UMP in organising the conference.

On top of that, the state government allocated 10 acres of land to UMP where research activities could be conducted.

Dato' Dr Rosli, representing Vice-Chancellor, said the in depth and comprehensive discussions held throughout the conference brought about an understanding on important aspects such as the latest progress in nano material science and engineering.

In fact, the discovery of synthesis and nano material

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processing through more innovative techniques and approaches could produce a variety of features, be it in the form of physical, electrical, chemical and biological, with lower pricing.

In the same event, UMP exchanged memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with Malaysia Chemistry Institute (MCI) and Malaysia Solar Resources (MSR) that paved the way for co-operations in chemical and engineering including

in research and development.

UMP was represented by Professor Dato' Dr Rosli and FIST Dean, Professor Dr Mashitah while MCI by its President, Datuk Dr. Soon Ting Kueh and MSR, by its Managing Director, Ong Ah Hwa.

Also present were MCI Honorary Secretary, Professor Datin Dr. Zuriati Zakaria and Dato' Haji Mohd Amran Wahid from MSR.