Gambang, March 25 - FIST in collaboration with the Science Technology Expert Society (SciTEXS) held a Creative & Innovative Annual Challenge. Eleven groups comprising 57 Industrial Chemistry and Industrial Biotechnology students participated. Science-based projects with practical applications were conceptualized under the guidance of lecturers at FIST. On hand to launch the Challenge was the Dean. The group, “Aqua Touch”, won first place, followed by “Hot Ice” and “B.U.S.T.E.R.”

**INDUSTRIAL LINK WITH KANEKA**

**Gebeng, Jan 14** - FIST’s Industrial Chemistry and Material Technology groups met with KANEKA (M) Sdn. Bhd. to initiate academic and research collaborations. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Benjamin Lukas presented a proposal for recycling calcium phosphate from industrial waste. Saiful Kamaluddin Muzakir invited KANEKA to play a role in assisting the development of the Material & Food Technology Programs at FIST. KANEKA requested for technical support from UMP to conduct analytical services on their chemical samples. In concluding the meeting, KANEKA offered to receive UMP students for industrial training in the near future. Facilitating the meeting was Iskandar Abdul Aziz of UMP’s University-Industry Centre.

**FIST - RT BIOFARM SDN. BHD. COLLABORATION**

**Pekan, Jan 25** - An on-site visit was held at RT Biofarm Sdn. Bhd. to initiate research collaboration with FIST’s Industrial Biotechnology Program. RT Biofarm Sdn. Bhd. is a company that currently supplies chicken to Ayamas Sdn. Bhd. The main research areas will be focusing on increasing the productivity and maintenance of the chickens. Possible areas of collaboration would be on improving the quality of the feed and water supply, ability to resist or tolerate infectious disease, aeration and coop’s general environment.