Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)’s Seventh Cendekia Bitara Award which took place at Hyatt Hotel in Kuantan on April 27, 2015 showcased the accomplishments of its academic staff.

They were feted for their achievements in research, teaching and learning undertakings.

This year’s theme was ‘Nature and Nurture’ - two important elements necessary when priming the most indispensable asset which was the university’s top-notch talents of scientists and researchers.

Mentri Besar of Pahang YAB Dato’ Sri Diraja Dr. Adnan Yaakob officially launched the event.

He said UMP’s responsibility as an institution of knowledge was to ensure that research findings were shared with the community so the people could enjoy the long-lasting benefits.

He also hoped that their successes would inspire all lecturers to explore the world of knowledge which had no limits.

In 2014, the university’s scientists and researchers recorded outstanding achievements in the country and abroad, winning various awards in exhibitions and competitions.

They collected 31 gold medals, 14 silver medals, 13 bronze medals and 13 special awards which simply showed that UMP researchers were at par with other universities.

In his speech, Vice Chancellor YH Prof. Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said UMP received 267 local and international research grants in 2103 and this reflected the confidence of others in establishing ties with the university.

There was also a significant increase in publication with 736 publications printed as compared to 340 last year.

It was even more exciting when SCOPUS and Elsevier Bibliographic Database (EBD) indexed the International Journal of Automotive and Mechanical Engineering (IJAME).

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This further accentuated the accomplishments of UMP for having world-class materials publications.

The 2014 Cendekia Bitara Award was divided into eight categories – Leading Personality, Creativity, Quality, Journal Publication, Book Publication, Product Research, Patents Granted and International Grant.

A total of 55 researchers were presented with their deserving awards – 36 were recipients under the journal category, 12 for product, three for patent, two for creativity and one each for the leading personality and international grant categories.

It was noted that the number of special award recipients especially in the research project competition that were held abroad had increased from seven in 2013 to 13 in 2014.

This showed that UMP’s research projects were able to compete and attract the attention of the international community.

PPKPK won the creativity category for implementing UMP Data Management System (e-Dashboard). It was a new initiative to streamline the processes involving data collection, data analysis and evidence so channelling of the data could be done more effectively.

A research project by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noraziah Ahmad of FSKKP titled ‘Preserving Fragmented Database Replication Consistency Using Binary Vote Assignment On Grid Quorum’ won second place in the National Intellectual Property Award 2014.

Prof. Dr. Abdurahman Hamid Nour of FKKSA was named ‘Tokoh’ of UMP. He was also presented with the Honorary Doctorate Of Letter and The Order Of International Fellowship Gold Peace Prize from the International Biographical Centre (IBC) in Cambridge, England.

It was a recognition given to him for his works in research and publication delivered at the international level. The University Academic Award for Applied Science Category was presented to Dr. Mohamed Ariff Ameedeen from FSKKP while the Arts and Applied Science category went to Dr. Nik Aloesnita Nik Mohd Alwi of CMLHS.