BY: HELMI MOHAMED ISA

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) had a working visit to Saudi Arabia from Feb 28 until March 10, 2013 aimed at boosting its international research grant and strengthening ties with universities and industries in the country.

Efforts taken to increase its international research fund were part of an initiative under the KRA 2; Financial Sustainability - targeted under the university's Strategic Plan 2011-2015 and led by Professor Ir. Dr. Shah Nor bin Basri.

UMP delegation to Saudi Arabia comprised five people and they were Vice Chancellor Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli bin Mohd Yunus, Research Dean Professor Ir. Dr. Shah Nor bin Basri, Faculty of Chemical 

& Natural Resources Engineering (FKKSA) Deputy Dean (Research and Post Graduate) P. M Dr. Abdurahman Hamid Nour and JP&L's senior assistant registrar Helmi bin Mohamed Isa.

During the visit, UMP was given the opportunity to meet researchers and scientists whose expertise were in engineering and technology, areas that were related to UMP's core fields.

The meetings were fruitful and had positive impacts with some of the universities paving the way for collaborations with UMP, such as to conduct related research and development activities.

UMP believed that with the right expertise, technology and allocations, it would lead to a variety of research and development products being developed.

The universities and industries visited were:

1. King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dammam
2. King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy (KA-CARE), Riyadh
3. King Saud University, Riyadh
4. Taibah University, Madinah
5. King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah
6. Saudi International Petrochemical Company (SIPCHEM)
7. National Industrialisation Company (TASNEE)
8. Zamil Air-Conditioners

A briefing session during a visit at King Saud University, Riyadh

A visit to the King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah

A tour of the King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy (KA-CARE), Riyadh

A visit to the King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah

Meeting 2: King Abdullah City for Atomic & Renewable Energy (KA-CARE), Riyadh 5 March 2013

Meeting 3: King Saud University, Riyadh 5 March 2013

Meeting 4: Sadan University, Madinah 6 March 2013

Meeting 5: National Industrialisation Company (TASNEE) 10 March 2013

Meeting 6: Saudi International Petrochemical Company (SIPCHEM), Dammam 10 March 2013

Meeting 9: King Abduallah University, Jeddah 9 March 2013