All the winners posing with Vice Chancellor Professor Dato’ Dr Daing Nasir Ibrahim.

BY: NOOR SYAHIDAH SABRAN

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) displayed 179 of its research works at the Creation, Innovation, Technology and Research Exposition or CITREx 2013 that was held at its Sports Complex on March 27-28, 2013.

It was organised by the Research and Innovation Department (JP&I), with cooperation from the Student Affairs and Alumni Department (SAFFAD).

It was held for the third time and this year, it was officially closed by UMP Vice Chancellor Prof. Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim. A total of 92 faculty members and 87 undergraduates took part in the event.

The objective of having the exhibition was to showcase UMP research findings for them to be competed at a higher level, be it at the national or international level.

The programme was also the best platform to evaluate the creativity of researchers and undergraduates as well as an appropriate setting to contribute to technology development for the future.

Also, by showcasing the works, it would highlight the researchers’ ability especially in making new discoveries and knowledge-based technology. This would help to boost UMP’s name, internationally.

Associate Professor Dr. Mimi Sakinah Abdul Munaim from the Faculty of Chemical and Natural Resource Engineering (FKKSA) was named as the recipient for the Best of the Best Award under the faculty member category.

Her research project, ‘Xymas’, comprised the use of acid hydrolysis and enzyme reaction to create natural sweetener ‘Xylitol’. She used wood powder to make the sweetener.

The product, which won a gold medal, could be used to prevent dental caries and tooth decay.

For the student category, the award was won by undergraduate Siti Hawa Apandi from the Faculty of Computer Systems and Software Engineering. Her project was titled "Smart Attendance'.

She created a software that would solve attendance problems faced by schools in Kuantan and for the schools to be able to monitor the situation more effectively.

Siti Hawa, who suffers from spinal muscular atrophy, a disease that weakens her nerves, was accompanied by her mother Zaidah Tamjis throughout her schooling years.

For the Special Green Technology award, Mohd Najib Razali from the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Natural Resources took home the gold medal with his project, ‘Innovative Green Technology - Waste Emulsion Treatment System’.

This year’s CITREx exhibition saw 32 research projects awarded with gold medals, 67 with silver medals and 65 received bronze medals. More than 300 people turned up for the exhibitions and they were students around Kuantan such as those from Sultan Ahmad Shah Polytechnic, Kuantan Community College and Pahang Matriculation College.

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For the Special Green Technology award, Mohd Najib Razali from the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Natural Resources took home the gold medal with his project, ‘Innovative Green Technology - Waste Emulsion Treatment System’.

His research finding involved resolving problems relating to environment caused by industrial waste that would involve lesser cost and for the industrial waste be reused or created into other products such as grease.