

Focus on world-class research to benefit community, country

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UNIVERSITI Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdulrahman (UMPSA) has set its eyes on world-class research and innovation in the fields of engineering and technology through creative techniques to benefit the community and the country.

The Pahang campus will continue to focus on research and innovations in the fast-changing world of Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR4.0) with special focus on elements of innovation that will have a major impact on organisations and bring benefit to the community.

Vice-chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Yuserrie Zainuddin said the university is realigning its focus on empowering research, industrial innovation and commercialisation to enhance more dynamic and proactive research capabilities.

He said the realignment involves empowering research, industrial innovation and commercialisation in terms of increasing dynamic and proactive research capability and capacity through grant governance and the provision of new high-impact grants.

The focus will be on the country's current strategic issues, challenges and adaptation of digital transformation through IR 4.0. UMPSA will transform the research, industrial innovation and commercialisation agenda, which is further strengthened and empowered by the UMPSA Strategic Plan 2021-2025 through the Innovation Strategic Objective along with the Industry Collaboration and High Impact Technology Exploration.

Innovation objectives along with industry collaborations can leverage the technical capabilities of UMPSA and the industry. This is not only by transferring knowledge and technical abilities in UMPSA towards the industry but also involves transferring knowledge and technical abilities from industry to UMPSA, thus creating a win-win situation," he said.



UMPSA Vice-Chancellor, Professor Datuk Ts. Dr Yuserrie Zainuddin receiving the accreditation for UMP Bosch Rexroth Academy as a training centre for the IR4.0 Industrial Automation and Control & Drive certification programmes.



Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin (centre) and UMPSA Vice-Chancellor Professor Datuk Ts. Dr Yuserrie Zainuddin (2nd from right) holding the placards for the university's rebranding. PIX COURTESY OF UMPSA

Meanwhile, Yuserrie said UMPSA is committed towards efforts to promote product development and providing research involving the industry in the production of high-level technology that will contribute to the community through the social enterprise ecosystem.

Collaborations with the industry players will boost UMPSA's efforts in the exploration of IR 4.0. For example, the university's collaboration with Bosch Rexroth Sdn. Bhd. (Bosch Rexroth) allowed UMPSA researchers to obtain direct experience in advanced automation equipment from the industry.

This strategic collaboration is in line with the UMPSA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 in producing holistic graduates and local talent, with comprehensive training modules that are recognised globally and catered to the challenges of the IR4.0.

"The partnership will see the establishment of the UMPSA Bosch Rexroth Academy with three main pillars, which are to achieve the TVET Aspira-



Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin looking at UMPSA's research products during his visit to the Pekan campus.

tion (IMTUN) develop the IR 4.0 Hi-Tech Advanced Training Centre and support the National IR 4.0 Agenda," he said.

SMART CAMPUS

UMPSA aims to become a smart campus, in line with the government's aspiration to strengthen the country's digital agenda.

A smart campus provides an environment that is able to offer efficient technology and infrastructures to all UMPSA citizens. It can also help to support and improve the teaching and learning process as well as research.

SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS

UMPSA has embarked on the Sustainable Campus Blueprint to respond to the government's agenda. The blueprint is an action plan and a guide for the campus towards achieving Sustainable Malaysia 2030 based on the Green Technology Master Plan Malaysia 2017 - 2030.

This is in line with the 12th Malaysia Plan (2021-2025) which prioritises the

need for the country's development to align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030). UMPSA has established a special committee to prepare this blueprint, known as the UMP Sustainable Campus Blueprint.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

The university's collaboration with the industry as a synergistic partner is capable of empowering the technical and vocational education and training (TVET) field in steering Malaysia towards a developed and high-income country based on technology and innovation.

UMPSA has continuously strived to introduce technology and sustainability practices to the community, educate and more importantly, become a role model in relation to the principles of sustainability.

As one of the top universities in the Malaysian Technical University network,

FACTBOX

1. 22 UMPSA lecturers ranked among the world's Top 2 per cent Scientists' in the list of outstanding researchers in various fields and disciplines released by United States-based Stanford University. A total of academicians were listed under 2022 achievement category and seven under the career-long achievement category.

2. Ranked 201-250 in the Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2023 (THE Young) for higher-learning institutions established below 50 years.

3. Ranked 801-1,000 in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (THE WUR) and 201-250 in the 2023 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings Asia.

4. Ranked 401-450 in the world and sixth in Malaysia in the QS World University Rankings Sustainability.

5. UMP awarded a Three-Diamond Rating Certificate in 2022 by the Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) during Malaysia's Low-Carbon Building Assessment Greenpass Operation.

UMPSA will continue to demonstrate the university's commitment towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as well as evaluate the university's efforts in addressing global environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues.

UMPSA has realigned the SDGs with its core values, the Malaysia Madani concept, the higher education minister's mandate and the UMPSA25 Strategic Plan to ensure that all efforts are moving in line with various aspirations.

The recent branding of UMPSA will help build visibility, reputation and capability of the university in line with the development and achievements of the campus, which marked its 21st anniversary in February this year. The UMPSA brand will continue to preserve the university's glory towards becoming the best technological university.

Based on the university's vision to emerge as a premier technological university, the rebranding will realise its aspirations for excellence through academic empowerment, impactful research results and the production of excellent graduates to raise the quality of human capital in driving national development.

CENDEKIA BITARA AWARD 22

UMPSA held the Cendekia Bitara Award-Process Craftmanship yesterday to recognise its academicians who have achieved outstanding success in the research, innovation, commercialisation and publication fields, and contributed significantly to the country.

A total of 109 individuals, including 101 Cendekia Bitara, six University e-Learning Awards (APU) and two University Academic Award (AAU) recipients, were recognised during the awards night.