



Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah presenting the Royal Education Award (Pingat Jaya Cemerlang) to Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (Honours) graduate Foo Xiao Bing at Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah's 18th convocation in Kuantan yesterday.  
BERNAMA PIC

## UMPSA'S 18TH CONVOCATION

# King: Prioritise research in new fields

**KUANTAN:** Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah has called on Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah (UMPSA) to prioritise research in new fields, such as robotics and high technology, based on artificial intelligence in line with the needs of the industry.

His Majesty, who is UMPSA chancellor, said the university needed to boost research in sustainable development and green technology, as well as empower technical and vocational education and training.

This is in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the 13th Malaysia Plan and UMPSA's role as a science, technology and engineering university.

"To achieve that wish, this university should increase collaboration with industry partners and other universities, both domestically and abroad.

"All these efforts will signify excellence and boost the university's rating," His Majesty said.

"The momentum of excellence

can also greatly contribute to socio-economy and improve the standard of living of the people."

His Majesty said this in his speech at the 18th convocation of UMPSA at its Gambang campus here yesterday.

Present were Pahang Regent Tengku Hassanul Ibrahim Alam Shah and Tengku Panglima Raja Colonel Tengku Amir Nasser Ibrahim Shah.

Tengku Hassanul was proclaimed pro-chancellor of UMPSA by Al-Sultan Abdullah.

The university started as Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (Pahang branch campus) before it was upgraded to University College of Engineering and Technology Malaysia (KUKTEM).

After five years of operation, KUKTEM was changed to Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) effective Feb 1, 2007.

The king expressed his appreciation to parties involved in naming the university after him.

According to His Majesty, the suggestion was made by ninth prime minister Datuk Seri Ismail

Sabri Yaakob.

"I pray that this branding will inspire excellence in all fields.

"Continuous efforts should be focused on academic empowerment, research and improving the ranking position and employability of graduates."

Al-Sultan Abdullah reminded all parties, including the board of directors, administration, academics and graduates, to uphold the good name of the university.

"Graduates should consist of quality human capital: highly skilled, competitive, trustworthy, and have integrity.

"At the same time, the university needs to maintain momentum in the quality of teaching and learning, as well as research and high-impact publications."

His Majesty called on staff members and students to be active in charitable and voluntary work.

A total of 4,854 graduates were expected to receive their scrolls, including 70 who will receive PhD, 161 master's and 2,181 bachelor's degrees. **Bernama**