

Headline	UM to host researchers conference		
MediaTitle	Sunday Star		
Date	15 Apr 2012	Color	Black/white
Section	Star Education	Circulation	320,964
Page No	4	Readership	1,072,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	155 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 3,421
Frequency	Weekly	PR Value	RM 10,263



UM to host researcher's conference

TO COMMEMORATE the launching of its new Research Management and Innovation Complex, Universiti Malaya (UM) will be hosting its inaugural UM Researchers' Conference 2012 (UMRC) on April 23 and 24.

With the theme "Towards Research Excellence: Taking Scholarship in New Direction", the conference will showcase UM's research niche areas and innovation activities that have the capacity to contribute to a new method of undertaking research.

It will also provide a platform for discussion, sharing and the creation of new ideas and expertise in various fields to be shared between local researchers, and between the public, private and industrial sectors.

"The conference will highlight various aspects of research, such as the UM Research Roadmap that was created in order to deliver the mandate of being a Research University and to achieve our goal to be among the top 100 universities in the world by 2015," said UM deputy vice-chancellor (Research and Innovation) Prof Dr Hamzah Abdul Rahman.

"Participants will have an opportunity to explore our High Impact Research and attend lectures on multidisciplinary and commercialising research activities in UM," he added.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin will be opening the conference and launching the UM Research Management and Innovation Complex on

April 23.

A total of 30 papers will be presented over the two days which will also be focusing on promoting Malaysian studies and on UM-specific niche research areas. The presenters will include UM's distinguished and award-winning academicians such as the winner of the Merdeka Award 2010, Prof Dr Harith Ahmad who will speak on the Photonics Research Centre.

Prof Dr Edmund Terence Gomez and Prof Dr Norzulaani Khalid will be presenting a paper on "Traditional Knowledge: Nurturing Indigenous Niches, R&D and Domestic Industries."

The papers presentation and discussion on internationalisation on the second day of the conference will cover UM's collaboration with more than 100 international institutions working on a diversified multidisciplinary topics. It will include a paper on "Addressing Local Problems through International Partnership" with reference to a research collaboration on HIV between UM and Yale University by Prof Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman.

A session on commercialising research will focus on the *Projek Pembangunan Inkubator Inovasi Universiti (IU)*.

"UM received an allocation of RM22mil from the government to implement this project.

For details, visit the conference's website at <http://umconference.um.edu.my/UMRC>