

EVENTS

Platform for the exchange of research

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THE recent Researcher Mixer Programme (Program Rampa Penyelidik) held at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) main campus in Bangi, Selangor provided members of the academia the opportunity to share information and widen their research network.

Themed STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical) for the Community, the event, which is in its sixth series, gathered scientists from numerous institutions to explore and collaborate in various fields.

UKM vice-chancellor Professor Tan Sri Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali said the tertiary institution has always encouraged cross-discipline, cross-faculty and cross-institute research in line with the Education Ministry's initiative.

He said the programme enables the research community to convene, interact and exchange research information based on specific themes.

"It is very much relevant in meeting the demands of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), enabling researchers to compete at the global level.

"This also ensures they can stand up to the challenges that arise from 4IR which include the rise of the digital economy," he told reporters after officiating the launch of the programme.

The one-day event was organised by UKM's Faculty of Education. Also present were faculty dean Professor Datuk Dr Narazah Mohd Nordin and UKM deputy vice-chancellor (research and innovation affairs) Professor Dr Mohd Ekhwani Toriman.

STEM for the Community seeks to generate knowledge, create wealth and ensure the well-being of society towards achieving a highly competitive, sustainable and inclusive high-income economy.

Noor Azlan said this cross-disciplinary partnership enables researchers to enhance collective research partnerships.

"As an example, while a certain faculty may produce a beauty product that has a positive impact on the physical appearance, the researchers must know whether it is against certain faiths to use it.

"Researchers can share their opinions with experts in the field of religion at the event and ensure that the product meets industry requirements."

(From right) Mohd Ekhwani Toriman, Noor Azlan Ghazali and Nora Zah Mohd Nordin paying a visit to one of the booths after the launch of the programme.

PICTURE BY SAIFULLIZAN TAMAD