

## UniMAP EXCELS IN CULTURAL FIELD

Kangar, Jan. 18 - Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) not only focus on academic excellence and research alone but also makes the field of culture as one of the main focuses of the university to make it at par with the older universities.

This has been proved when an international student, Shehabaddin Ghilan from Yemen named the recipient of the Bonang Emas Award for Most Active Student Category.

The award was presented by the Chairman of the Board of Directors (BOD) Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA), Tan Sri Dato 'Haji Alimuddin Haji Mohd Dom at an Art Award Ceremony organized by Universities Cultural Council of Malaysia (MAKUM) 2015 in Terengganu Equestrian Resort (TER) Kuala Terengganu recently.

Apart from Shehabaddin, Sutramaya Club UniMAP focussing on dance were also selected to receive the Gambang Mustika award for Best Club category.

In his speech, Tan Sri Alimuddin said that such events are one way to express appreciation and recognition to students who are active in the field of arts and culture.

"Involvement in the arts and culture, especially among students of public universities to the extent that would make the students better and be able to generate creative thinking, motivation, effort and teamwork."

"In fact, the involvement and excellent cooperation of the 20 public universities in Malaysia indirectly motivate students to continue to get going in arts and cultural activities," he said.

According to Director of UniSZA Center for the Arts & Heritage and Secretary MAKUM 2013/2015 session, Sahar Sa'di Hashim, each university sent the list of candidates as well as their cultural club of the university and the secretariat choose only one student and also the most active cultural and artistic clubs from each UA to receive the award.

Unit Media Page 1

"Therefore, a total of 20 students were selected to receive the Bonang Emas MAKUM Award for Most Active Student Category and 20 UA cultural clubs received Gambang Mustika MAKUM Award for Best Club Category," he said.

In addition to these two awards, there are five other awards up for grabs on the night which is the Citra Budiman Emas MAKUM Award granted to MAKUM officials who work hard in ensuring MAKUM quality of excellence through active contribution in organizing or coordinating MAKUM activities to uphold the National Cultural Heritage in respective universities.

While the Gong Kencana MAKUM award is given to the most prominent public universities taking part in competitions and programs contested by MAKUM; Kenong Budi MAKUM Awards is for agencies that highly contribute towards MAKUM excellence and meritorious;

Other awards are Saron Wangsa MAKUM Award was awarded to MAKUM secretary; and Saron Wangsa Utama MAKUM Award is awarded to MAKUM Secretariat Session 2013-2015.

The Council has received the cooperation of the Ministry of Education (MOE) has also announced the selection of the University Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) as MAKUM secretariat for 2016 to 2017.

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Unit Media Page 2