



KUIM promotes external ties

IN line with the internationalisation goal of Kolej Universiti Islam Malaysia (KUIM) to establish itself as an institution of Islamic Studies, the university has taken measures to promote external ties and develop co-operation in academic and international affairs.

As part of its plan to further strengthen its international profile, it has organised activities such as signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Universitas Islam Negeri Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta (UIN).

KUIM and UIN agreed to encourage and promote co-operation of scientific and cultural knowledge; promote exchange of information and materials that are of mutual interest; promote and facilitate the exchange of research and teaching staff as well as students; and to collaborate in the joint edition of monographs either historical or linguistic or on any other subject of common interest to both parties.

They will also promote

CLOSE TIES:
KUIM rector Prof Datuk Dr Abdul Shukor (left) presenting a souvenir to the dean of Faculty of Medicine, Al-Azhar University, Cairo.

and collaborate on the execution of joint research project wherever possible, in any area of interest common to both parties.

In relation to the MoU, the Faculty of Economy and Muamalat had initiated plans to have field visits to UIN.

The university will also embark on internationalisation programmes including joint collaboration with

the General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions, an institution that represents Islamic banks and financial institutions from many countries, including United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Malaysia, which is located in Bahrain.

This MoU is recognised as an university-industry link co-operation which is desirable in establishing link and



co-operation between two entities. The co-operation also includes student practical/industrial training, joint research, joint seminar and *fatwa* reference and management.

KUIM also plans to sign MoUs with universities in Cairo and Jordan.

To encourage students to excel, KUIM sponsored students with excellent results to visit foreign countries at

least one semester for a credit transfer programme. It also encouraged its students to participate in international seminars or programmes organised by the Education Ministry.

Nisar Mohammad Ahmad, 23, president of the Student Representative Council, was selected to participate in the International Work Camp last year at Egypt's tourist city, Hurghada.

The Culture, Arts and Youth, and Sports ministries also sent five representatives to represent Malaysia in the programme.

This programme was participated by 23 countries including from several Arab countries, Finland, France, India, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Congo and Zambia.

The Student Affairs Unit will also conduct a humanitarian visit to Cambodia.

The university established a World Fatwa Management and Research Institute (INFAD), which aims to become a well-known *fatwa* research institution and a world-class information centre on *fatwa* and Islamic law.

INFAD is developing a specialised information management system prototype, called the Fatwa Management System (FMS), as a holistic knowledge-based tool for the systematic undertaking of research and management of world *fatwa*.

This system will help INFAD to provide the foundation, while being the catalyst for research; information gathering and collaboration with experts that in return helps strengthen the *fatwa* institute.

To date, KUIM has 25 per cent foreign post-graduate students from Saudi Arabia and Burkino Faso pursuing PhDs whereas for its master's programmes, students from Indonesia, Iraq and Libya represent 28.6 per cent of the population.

Foreign professors from well-known universities will be invited to access and evaluate its academic programmes. They will also be appointed as an adviser and member of the editorial board of KUIM's journals. They will also contribute articles to the journals.