KOTA KINABALU: A faculty in Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is branching into planting of herbs and starting an EcoCampus.

The faculty of humanities, arts and heritage has been among faculties which conducted research on the subjects but became the first to introduce a formal study.

Dr How Siew Eng, the director of the EcoCampus management centre, said: "We are proud to be going into studies of herbal plants because this is an area usually assigned to science-related faculties."

Being the first arts faculty of UMS to show interest on natural herbs, vice chancellor Prof. Datuk D. Kamarudin commended the faculty and hoped that such effort would enhance awareness and knowledge on natural herbs.

"This will provide knowledge to people of UMS on the various plants and traditional herbs and medicines that we have in UMS."

"It will also increase awareness to love and preserve these plants," said Kamarudin in his speech delivered by director of EcoCampus management centre, Assoc Prof Dr How Siew Eng.

He added that a number of institutions in the university had conducted multiple joint researches on natural herbs which have been proven to bring substantial benefits to human beings for over a thousand years.

"It was informed that FFSW will be planting six herbal trees on the faculty's main compound, known as Tu-\textit{uwan-uwan} (Syzygium leucoxylon) by the Kadazan-dusun natives, these herbs are an important heritage of Saba-

hans," asserted Kamarudin.

Earlier, a talk was presented by research fellow of Borneo Heritage Research Unit from UMS Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Julius Kulip on the importance of natural herbs to humans.

"Natural herbs are not only important in the natural system but also provide benefits to humans especially as the nutrition is scientifically pro-

cessed." Researchers from UMS includ-

ing Mr. Julius have worked hard in creating herbal products from Sabah which have gained medals in innovation competitions in UMS level as well as international-\textit{ly}, he stressed.

The programme yesterday was jointly organised by Bor-

neo Heritage Research Unit and UMS Chapter of the Na-

tional Professors Council.

Meanwhile, Julius stressed that knowledge on the impor-

tance of traditional herbs needs to be enhanced to main-

tain local herbs consumption and preserve these resources from extinction.

"The herbs and Sabah tradi-

tional medicines found in UMS can be divided into two categories - planted and grown naturally.

"There are approximately 115 species of medicinal herbs that can be found here where 95 grew naturally while 20 were planted," he disclosed.

Also present were FFSW dean, Prof. Dr. Ismail Ibrahim, Borneo Heritage Research Unit Chief Assoc Prof. Dr. Low Kok On and deputy di-

rector of Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Dr. Sahana Harun.

The annual competition initiated in 2008 entered its 10th installation this year with 249 projects - 186 projects in research category and 63 in innovation.

According to him, the Industrial Rev-

olution 4.0 calls for more applications de-

velopment from faculties related to com-

puterisation in order to move towards a paperless world.

"Hopefully we will see more prototypes and products from researchers next year," said Shahril during the closing ceremony of UMS Research and Innovation Competition (PEREKA) 2017 here yesterday.

The competition initiated in 2008 entered its 10th installation this year with 249 projects - 186 projects in research category and 63 in innovation.

"From next year onwards, 70 per cent of research funding channelled in the internal fundings will be allocated for translational projects and researches while the remaining 30 per cent will focus on fundamental science or research," said UMS deputy vice chancellor (research and innovation), Prof. Dr. Shahril Yassof.

"According to him, the Industrial Rev-

olution 4.0 calls for more applications de-

velopment from faculties related to com-

puterisation in order to move towards a paperless world.

"Hopefully we will see more prototypes and products from researchers next year," said Shahril during the closing ceremony of UMS Research and Innovation Competition (PEREKA) 2017 here yesterday.

The annual competition initiated in 2008 entered its 10th installation this year with 249 projects - 186 projects in research category and 63 in innovation.

"From next year onwards, 70 per cent of research funding channelled in the internal fundings will be allocated for translational projects and researches while the remaining 30 per cent will focus on fundamental science or research," said UMS deputy vice chancellor (research and innovation), Prof. Dr. Shahril Yassof.

"According to him, the Industrial Rev-

olution 4.0 calls for more applications de-

velopment from faculties related to com-

puterisation in order to move towards a paperless world.

"Hopefully we will see more prototypes and products from researchers next year," said Shahril during the closing ceremony of UMS Research and Innovation Competition (PEREKA) 2017 here yesterday.

The annual competition initiated in 2008 entered its 10th installation this year with 249 projects - 186 projects in research category and 63 in innovation.

"From next year onwards, 70 per cent of research funding channelled in the internal fundings will be allocated for translational projects and researches while the remaining 30 per cent will focus on fundamental science or research," said UMS deputy vice chancellor (research and innovation), Prof. Dr. Shahril Yassof.

"According to him, the Industrial Rev-

olution 4.0 calls for more applications de-

velopment from faculties related to com-

puterisation in order to move towards a paperless world.

"Hopefully we will see more prototypes and products from researchers next year," said Shahril during the closing ceremony of UMS Research and Innovation Competition (PEREKA) 2017 here yesterday.