MONDAY, 18 JULY –
Universiti Malaysia Sabah
(UMS) through its Health
Research and Development
Unit (DHRU) entered into
an agreement with the
exchange of documents
with EcoHealth Alliance for
sponsorship of UMS
postgraduate students. The
exchange of documents
was held at the Executive
Board Meeting Room,
today.

The exchange of
‘Subcontract Award
Agreement’ was presented
by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Professor Dr. Shahril Yusof to the President of
EcoHealth Alliance, Dr. Peter Daszak.

According to Professor Dr. Shahril, the sponsorship deal was to fund the three postgraduate students in the fields
of Medicine and Health Sciences, as well as Humanities, Arts and Heritage.

“The sponsorship deal is worth RM291,852 that would cover the expenses of the three postgraduate students
during their study. The current phase of this Subcontract Award Agreement covers the period from 1 January
2016 until 14 October 2016. It is expected that the agreement will be continued, covering the entire period of
study of the postgraduates namely Amy Lim, Alice Mathews and Jimmy Lee,” he disclosed in a ceremony.

He added, the sponsorship of students by EcoHealth Alliance was one of the cooperation between UMS and non-
governmental organisations (NGOs), based in New York, adding that other activities planned between these two
organisations included research and publications, as well as educational seminars and workshops.

Meanwhile, Chief of DHRU, Dr. Sarma Aralas said, the project undertaken by DHRU and EcoHealth Alliance
were ‘Infectious Disease Emergence and the Economics of Altered Landscapes (IDEEAL)’, aimed at studying the
economic impact of changes in land use in Sabah.

“The project hopes to evaluate the best practices of land use changes that could be beneficial to both health and the
environment,” he said.

DHRU is a multidisciplinary research unit at UMS to foster collaborative research among researchers in the fields
of medicine, economic and social sciences. – SS (fl)