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Halim receives honorary award from varsity

RENONG Bhd executive chairman Tan Sri Halim Saad received the Honorary Award for Distinguished Service from the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, in conjunction with the university's centennial celebration on September 23 1999 in Wellington.

The award was bestowed in recognition of Halim Saad's invaluable contribution to Victoria's Chair of Malay Studies, which aims to promote greater awareness and understanding of Malaysia and her people in New Zealand.

Halim Saad, a Victoria University graduate, has been a key supporter of the establishment of the chair through grants from Renong Bhd and through his family's foundation, the Saad Foundation, which sponsors the annual Malay Studies Lecture and seminar series.

To date, the chair, which also encourages cultural and academic exchanges between the Malay and the Pacific world, has organised four symposia, including the Malay-Pacific Symposium and is producing the Malay Studies Working Paper Series.

The chair, inaugurated by Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in 1996, has increased the awareness of Malaysia's development and its vision among New Zealanders and the South-Pacific nations.

There were five others who received the same award.

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