

30 JAN 2004

UM TO EXTEND COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 30 (Bernama) -- Universiti Malaya (UM) is expected to extend its bilateral cooperation with leading foreign universities by signing up famous institutions like the Oxford University of England, the Harvard University of the United States and the University of Beijing in China, this year.

Its Vice-Chancellor, Prof Datuk Dr Hashim Yaacob, said the cooperation, which involved research and staff and student exchange, was to make UM the country's premier research institute in a multitude of fields.

He said UM currently enjoyed similar cooperation with some 50 universities worldwide, including Cambridge University of England, University of Seoul in South Korea and the University of Tokyo in Japan.

"The cooperation is in line with UM's vision to become a top research university which functions as the catalyst for teaching, studies and research for all local higher institutions of learning," he said.

He was speaking after the Special Convocation where former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad was conferred the honorary Doctor of Islamic Thought (DIslamTh).

Prof Hashim said among the disciplines which UM would focus on were medicine, science, engineering, economics and information and communication technology.

-- BERNAMA

NER JUR AHH EMK SRI