

Unimas and Mobif sign MoU for research

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SAMARAHAN: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) and Mobif Berhad (Mobif) yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to undertake collaborative research in the field of communication.

Unimas was represented by its vice chancellor Prof Abdul Rashid Abdullah, while Mobif by its chief commercial officer Eddy Lee Khiam Jin.

The partnership will build upon the core competencies of both parties to cover systems integration and consultancy services in Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephony and network infrastructure.

The MoU will also spur the creation of new products, applications and features through a series of collaborative research projects.

Through the partnership, Mobif will gain access to expertise available in Unimas to further enhance and develop the technologies needed for the future, while Unimas will have access to the latest technologies and trends to add value to its academic programmes.

Prof Abdul Rashid, in his brief speech said the MoU should fulfil its obligations.

"I hope the MoU is not just for the sake of signing, but something concrete must be done to fulfill its obligations," he said.

He pointed out that Unimas was committed to the various MoUs that it had signed with other agencies.

Meanwhile, Lee said the key objectives of the MoU was to spearhead the creation of



SMART PARTNERSHIP: Prof Abdul Rashid (second right) exchanges the document with Lee, while looking on from left are Prof Narayanan, Wong and Dr Murtedza.

new innovative products, applications and features and uphold the resulting intellectual properties (IP) on the research and development (R&D) efforts.

It was also to achieve the R&D concerning mutual core competencies and IP of the entire range of systems integration and consultancy services, to jointly undertake projects of mutual interest in the area of VoIP telephony and infrastructure, and the transfer of technology and interactions of both Mobif staff and Unimas students and staff.

The MoU, Lee pointed out, was also for mutual benefit of both parties in fulfilling the government's aspiration to position Malaysia as an R&D driven economy.

He added that there were enormous prospects for the growth of IP telephony

and broadband technologies.

He said the MoU with Unimas was the first it had signed with a public institution of higher learning.

He said Mobif, established in 1999, is a technology focused company based in the Klang Valley with R&D centres in Penang.

It was accorded the MSC status in 2001 and listed on Mesdaq Board of Bursa Malaysia in 2004.

Having more than 100 personnel, it has five offices in the country, and marketing agents in Australia, China, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, the United States, El-Salvador, Taiwan, Singapore, India and Sri Lanka.

As of end of March, Mobif's market capitalisation stood at around RM500 million.