KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) yesterday inked a memorandum of agreement (MoA) to enhance cooperation in the field of research.

And for the research funding, both universities would each contribute RM250,000 for a period of two years. The areas of research will include health and clinical science, social science, national heritage, among others.

At the MoA signing, the UMS was represented by its vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah while Unimas, by its vice chancellor Prof Dato’ Dr Mohamad Kadim Suaidi.

Dr Harun in his speech expressed the hope that the cooperation would benefit both universities. He added that among others, the agreement aimed to raise the quality of research, to produce more researchers as well as to increase the number of publications.

Meanwhile, Dr Mohamad Kadim said: "Both UMS and Unimas have its own expertise in certain fields and when combined, it will bring about significant benefits for both universities".

Also present yesterday were UMS deputy VC Prof Dr Shahril Yusof, Unimas deputy VC Prof Dr Kopli Bujang, UMS registrar No’man Haji Ahmad, UMS Research and Innovation Centre director, Prof Madya Dr Lee Ping Chin and Unimas Innovation Centre director Prof Dr Lo May Chiun.