

Unimas to host STEM Fest 2013, public invited

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KUCHING: Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the upcoming International Festival of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEMFest) 2013.

The event is hosted by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas). There will be a series of conferences and workshops in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics happening from Sept 29 to Oct 5.

Environment Assistant Minister Datuk Len Talif Salleh said the event will involve experts in the fields relating to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics but also anyone else who is interested.

"We are not just encouraging those who are related to the fields, including teachers and students, but also members of the public. This is to entice people to be interested in those fields to fulfil the needs for technical skilled workforce.

"Unimas, together with Tabung Ekonomi Gagasan Anak Bumiputra Sarawak (Tegas), State Education Department and Yayasan Sarawak, is working hard to put together seven different conferences and workshops during STEM Fest," he told a press conference at



UPCOMING EVENT: Len Talif (centre) receiving the event poster from Campbell (right) with the assistance of Unimas deputy vice chancellor Professor Dr Peter Songan.

Wisma Sumber Alam yesterday. The conference convenor Scott Campbell informed the press that the theme for STEM Fest 2013 is 'Smart Economic Development,

aligning Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to a State's Future Human Resource Needs'. "The Sarawak government

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Datuk Len Talif Salleh, Environment Assistant Minister

recognises the need to get involved with people in these fields to address the shortage of manpower by creating more awareness about the importance of STEM," he said.

Len, who is also Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Department (Technical Education Promotion), added there will be other side events during the entire festival, including field trips and Unimas Open Days.

Over 300 international delegates have registered so far, with some 200 from Unimas, 450 from Tegas, State Education Department and Yayasan Sarawak.

A total of 226 papers will be presented at the conferences.

For more information, readers can log on to <http://www.stemstates.org>.