

UNIMAS successfully holds Graduate Colloquium and Language Carnival

KOTA SAMARAHAN: The Centre for Language Studies (CLS) UNIMAS has successfully organised its first ever Graduate Colloquium and Language Carnival on 21-22 November 2012. The event, which managed to attract a large crowd, was part of the UNIMAS 20th anniversary celebration.

The Vice Chancellor of UNIMAS, Prof Datuk Dr Khairuddin Ab Hamid, officiated the opening ceremony with a burst of colours. In attendance was the Dean of CLS, Dr. Norazuna Norahim, the CLS staff, Deans, Deputy Deans and representatives from other faculties, representatives from other institutions, and students. It was a double celebration for CLS as its first journal publication, *Issues in Language Studies*, and its Academic Guidebook were officially launched on the same day.

A series of activities were carried out successfully by participants both from UNIMAS and the general public. Exhibition booths showcasing the CLS' language courses became the main attraction for visitors as language quizzes and games allowed them to go home with new knowledge and prizes. In addition, there were also traditional games, khat and calligraphy workshops, and video presentations of past student performances.

Meanwhile, CLS post-graduate students presented their research at the language colloquium at Level 3. The Best Presenter award was won by Oshodi Boluwaji, who presented on "Morphological Variability among Second Language Learners: Investigating the Failed Functional Feature Hypothesis and the Missing Surface Inflection Hypothesis".

Exhibitors who took part in the event included established names such as the Sarawak British Council, Edition 99 Sdn. Bhd., OurYouth.my, and Sarawak Bloggers Association. In addition, the attendance of representatives from Sarawak Society for the Prevention of Cruelty Against Animal (SSPCA) and radio cross-overs by Red FM brought more colours to the event. Event-goers were also seen to queue for the free drinks sample by Indocafe in the morning.

The success of this inaugural CLS Graduate Colloquium and Language Carnival signifies that CLS is one of the crucial players in UNIMAS' student growth and research development. One can indeed look forward to more such events in the upcoming future.