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Team ISM wins investment challenge

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| Hakim Hayat |

TEAM ISM from Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) emerged the grand prize winner of the Brunei Darussalam Capital Market Association (BCMA) Investment Challenge, after beating 108 other teams from different higher learning institutions in the annual competition organised to promote investment awareness and knowledge of capital markets among students.

The first runner up was NinAiDee also from UTB, Alpha One from Kolej International Graduate Studies (IGS) came in third place.

The winner, selected based on the investment strategy and highest portfolio returns, won a cash prize of BND1,000, an internship opportunity with Baiduri Capital Sdn Bhd as well as 12-month Progresif Cellular unlimited data mobile plan worth over BND1,000 for each team member.

The challenge was launched in October by BCMA in collaboration with Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) and Progresif Cellular Sdn Bhd as its strategic partner in conjunction with the World Investor Week 2018 celebration, an annual initiative by AMBD as a member of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO).

The prize presentation held at the Ministry of Finance and Economy (MoFE) building in Commonwealth Drive yesterday saw the top 10 participating teams in the challenge receiving prizes from AMBD's Acting Deputy Managing Director, Regulatory and Supervision Department Hajah Rashidah binti Haji Sabtu and General Manager of UOB (B) Asset Management Sdn Bhd Kamal bin Haji Muhammad, the Acting Chairman of BCMA. CEO of Progresif Cellular Paul Taylor also handed over prizes to weekly winners of the competition.

In his welcoming remarks, the Acting Chairman of BCMA shared that they have seen an increase in the number of teams participating in the second edition of the challenge and attributes this to the rising interest and realisation among students on the importance of financial and investment literacy. "This is a testament to the increasing interest in the

workings and understanding of the regional capital and equity markets amongst the young and upcoming,” he added.

“Our intention is to build and encourage interest in the capital markets for future employment opportunities and support the goals of the Financial Sector Blueprint (2016-2025) to grow Brunei Darussalam’s financial sector,” Kamal further added.

Some 109 teams from nine higher learning institutions including Politeknik Brunei; Kolej IGS; Universiti Brunei Darussalam; UTB; Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali; Laksamana College of Business; Kemuda Institute; Cosmopolitan College of Commerce and Technology; and Institute of Brunei Technical Education took part in the challenge.



Team ISM receives the grand prize from AMBD’s Acting Deputy Managing Director, Regulatory and Supervision Department Hajah Rashidah binti Haji Sabtu and General Manager of UOB (B) Asset Management Sdn Bhd Kamal bin Haji Muhammad, the Acting Chairman of BCMA. – HAKIM HAYAT