International Convention Scholarship Award seeks applicants

KUCHING: Sarawak Convention Bureau is once again searching for five outstanding individuals keen to represent Sarawak at international conventions of their choice.

Now entering its fourth year, the International Convention Scholarship Award applications are open to all Sarawakians and residents of Sarawak over 18 years of age from educational institutions, private companies or government departments.

Students of tertiary institutions may enter with the support of their university or college. The choice of convention must rotate among different destinations and have the possibility of being hosted in Malaysia.

Successful applicants will receive a grant of up to RM10,000 to be used to fund their travel, accommodation, convention registration fee and new association membership to attend the approved international convention of their choice.

Applications will close on July 31 for conventions held between September 2012 and December 2013.

Thus far, 15 winners were selected from the first three awards based on their choice of convention and case study presented.

Last year’s winners included SK Laksamana teacher Alban @William John Lisen who represented the state for the 65th International Dyslexia Association Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois, United States of America. Winners also included Sibu Water Board deputy general manager Alice Jawan Empaling who went to the World Water Congress & Exhibition 2012 in South Korea, Miri businesswoman Teresa Hii Leh Choo (60th FCEM World Congress of Association of Women Entrepreneurs in Berlin, Germany), Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak lecturer Jane Chan Ai Nyet (4th International Conference on Computer Supported Education 2012 in Porto, Portugal) and Studio Yolk Kuching principal and designer John Huang Shen Han (2011 International Design Congress in Taipei, Taiwan).

The bureau’s director of research Dylan Redas Noel said: “The objective of this scholarship is to see more Sarawakians attend overseas conventions. “They can play the role of either delegate speaker or board member, positioning themselves to attract more conventions. Our strategy is to showcase the benefits and opportunities of attending conventions and nurture future convention hosts willing to bid to bring meetings here.”

Application forms are downloadable from www.sarawakcb.com. Enquiries and applications should be directed to Sarawak Convention Bureau, Lot 31 Jalan Masjid, 93400, Kuching, Sarawak, telephone number 082-242516 or fax 082-242519.