KUALA LUMPUR: Two Malaysian students have been picked for Aston University's International Summer University study programme in the United Kingdom (UK) scheduled for July.

They are Universiti Malaya's Mohamad Asri Abdul Jani, 24, and Universiti Malaysia Terengganu's Nurhidayah Mukhtar, 23, who have left their mark in local debating championships. Their three-week stint in the UK will be sponsored by the Aston University Alumni Association of Malaysia.

"I'm shocked to have been chosen for the programme which is a great opportunity for me to widen my horizon," Mohamad Asri told reporters after receiving a mock cheque for RM20,000 from Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin on behalf of the association, here, yesterday.

It was also presented to Nurhidayah. Khaled said the programme would expose local students to studying in an overseas environment. "We really appreciate the alumni's effort in giving our students an opportunity to broaden their knowledge through an overseas study stint," he said, adding that more quarters should be involved in such an initiative. Present was association president, Datuk Mohamed Al Amin Abdul Majid.-Bernama