

Dr. Gaanty Pragas Receives Award from IKM



IKM President Datuk Dr. Soon presenting Tan Sri Datuk Ong Kee Hui Postgraduate Chemistry Medal to Dr. Gaanty Pragas

DEC 9, KUALA LUMPUR : The Tan Sri Datuk Ong Kee Hui Postgraduate Chemistry Medal is given annually to the most outstanding chemistry postgraduate thesis by Institut Kimia Malaysia (IKM) since 1974. For the year 2011, the sole recipient of the medal is Dr. Gaanty Pragas A/L Maniam from Faculty of Industrial Sciences and Technology (FIST), Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) for his PhD thesis. The medal also carries an Award Certificate and a cash prize. The award ceremony was during the Malam Kimia 2011 at the Sime Darby Convention Centre, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur on Friday, December 9, 2011. The Honourable Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, YB Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, attended the event as the Guest-of-Honour.

Dr. Gaanty's PhD thesis is on 'Biodiesel Production via Heterogeneous Transesterification of Palm Olein and Waste Oils' under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Boey Peng Lim of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). His research is on renewable energy materials (biodiesel), a relevant area under the national agenda of Energy and Water Security. During his doctoral research, he has published nine papers in highly reputed international journals published by The American Oil Chemists' Society, Springer and Elsevier and presented these results in national and international conferences. He is a reviewer for over ten international scholarly journals in the area of Renewable Energy and Catalysis.