



Unimas Lecturer On A Year Attachment With Cancer Institute

THE state government has nominated Dr. Muney ak Serit, a lecturer with Unimas to undergo a year attachment with National cancer Institute in Washington D C USA.

Dr. Muney will participate in pre-clinical trials on two compounds extracted from the local calophyllum (Bintangor) tree, which have been tested by US scientists to have positive anti-AIDS viral agents.

Dr. Muney's participation in the pre-clinical trials on the anti HIV viral compounds, calanolide and costatolide, is part of the process of technology transfer, provided under an arrangement between the state government and NCI, for the development of drugs using the biological resources of the state.

The state government hopes, with Dr. Muney's involvement in this technology transfer process, it will be able to establish laboratory facilities in Sarawak, capable of screening, isolating and testing extracts or tissues from the local plants and marine organisms for pharmaceutical development.

It also hoped that the process of producing a drug from the local plants for the treatment of AIDS-related