KUCHING: UCSI University Sarawak Campus, the private leading university in the region for Hospitality and Tourism Management, honoured 43 students during its Annual Awards Day Ceremony recently. The event was held at UCSI University Sarawak Campus to recognise high-achieving students in academics, sports and extra-curricular activities. Proud parents and guardians were among the guests besides the Centre for Pre-U Studies programme coordinator Mukvinder Sandhu, the Hospitality & Tourism Management dean Dr Li Jianyao, chief operating officer Dr Lu Huong Ying and Academic Affairs deputy vice-chancellor Professor Dr Teoh Kok Soo. In his speech, Lu encouraged the awardees, saying: “At UCSI University we are truly aware of the importance of higher education in playing the critical roles to bring out the best talents in youths, be it in science, technology, engineering, medicine or art performance, hospitality and tourism. “Education is about empowering the minds, and the great minds shaped through systematic education is the core ingredient in ensuring the economic competitiveness of a country. “It is our conscious calling that UCSI University will deliver the highest level education experience to our students, through our innovative pedagogy that challenges our students to be technology-savvy and employable.” On the award, Teoh said: “The ceremony today marks the commitment we have in ensuring that our students attain the highest level of their academic achievements not only in class but also in the industry. “Some of our pioneer students have really done us and their parents proud because of their early achievement in foreign lands such as Singapore, Japan, New Zealand and Macau.” Rowena Lu Pei Jia, a Dean’s List and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Award recipient, will be going for the Hokkaido Tracks Holiday Japan, a six-month co-operative placement. On her award, Lu said: “I feel so blessed for the Japan internship opportunity, I wish to thank my parents for all their support, and of course, the lecturers, for helping me go this far.” Lu’s intern mate for the Japan trip will be Rachel Soon Rui Chee. Both hoped that they could learn something more and extra from the foreign culture experience. Among the awards given were 43 Dean’s Lists to students who earned more than 70% marks in four subjects with CGPA 3.50 and above. There were four Deputy Vice-Chancellor Award recipients who scored a mark above 70% in all four subjects and obtained a GPA of 3.70 and above, in addition to participating in extracurricular activities, sports and cultural events.