



President Anastasiades (left) being shown around the Kios Research Centre for Intelligent Systems and Networks, at the University of Cyprus yesterday (CNA)

Expansion of higher education is our highest priority says President

THE expansion of higher education particularly in the fields of modern technology, medicine and energy to create qualified manpower for businesses and organisations is the government's highest priority, President Nicos Anastasiades said yesterday.

He said it also prevents Cypriot scientists moving abroad.

"The academic development of Cyprus and at the same time developing research and innovation is for the government an integral part of the economic, social and cultural development of our country," he said.

Anastasiades was addressing a

scientific workshop of the Kios Research Centre for Intelligent Systems and Networks, at the University of Cyprus.

He said the economic crisis had not affected the creativity of Cypriot scientists, who continued to work to achieve excellence. "We feel proud because although small in size, we excel at European and international level," he said.

The President thanked the University of Cyprus "for its substantial contribution" to Cypriot society.

Meanwhile the European Investment Bank has accepted to grant

a loan of €140m to the University of Cyprus, with favourable repayment terms, to complete the campus, Rector, Constantinos Christofides announced.

Christofides said last Friday he received a letter from the EIB informing him that the final negotiations could be conducted at the beginning of July.

Asking for the President's support, the Rector said that "the EIB loan, along with donations and resources from the structural funds, pave the way for the completion of the campus, in times of crisis". (CNA)