



Kasim (second left) dan Sharifudin (second right) exchanging the signed MoU.

## UMS, USIM sign MoU on Islamic studies

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) that focuses on Islamic studies.

According to UMS Vice Chancellor, Professor Datuk Dr Kasim Mansor, UMS and USIM agreed to collaborate in the fields of academics, research, student and staff exchange between the two institutions as well as related projects.

He said the collaboration will be led by the Faculty of Islamic Studies (FIS) of UMS as one of the efforts to empower graduates of the faculty.

"I feel very lucky because UMS and USIM will once again officially expand the cooperation network in various aspects as it exists in the MoU discussion papers between UMS and USIM.

"In my new year message and 100 days as Vice Chancellor, I have introduced the Leading Towards Innovative Societies slogan, which is very significant and far-sighted. It underlies the university's vision to become an innovative university at the global level in line with the university's motto which is Bertekad Cemerlang (Determined to Be Excellent).

"Therefore, it is hoped that with the cooperation of the MoU between UMS and USIM, these two universities can act as leaders for the innovative society," he said in a statement on Wednesday.

Kasim added that the collaboration is also in line with USIM's vision and mission in applying a balanced approach between physical and spiritual aspects, and applying a holistic approach towards the

delivery of knowledge, which integrates revealed knowledge (Naqli) and required knowledge (Aqli).

"This collaboration is also giving UMS space to add to existing programs and make USIM one of the references for academic programs related to Islamic studies," he said.

FIS UMS will be offering two new programs namely Shariah and Usuluddin to supplement existing study programs in producing graduates who meet current career demands.

At the MoU signing ceremony, UMS was represented by Kasim and UMS Registrar, Luqman Ridha Anwar, while USIM was represented by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Datuk Ts. Dr Sharifudin Md Shaarani and USIM Registrar, Datuk Mohammad Haizuan Rozali.