

UMS women graduates outnumber men

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KOTA KINABALU: University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) began the three-day 23rd convocation ceremony on Saturday for 4,319 graduates who completed their studies last year.

UMS vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin said of the total, 3,664 people received Bachelor's Degrees; Master's Degrees (357); Diploma (134); Postgraduate Diploma (87) and Doctor of Philosophy (77). Of the total,

60 per cent were from Sabah while the rest were from other states, as well as international students.

Two hundred and four are First Class Degree recipients and 99 graduates are from China, Brunei, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Timor Leste, Pakistan, South Korea, Iran, Zanzibar, Vanuatu, Saudi Arabia and India.

Meanwhile, nine students with disabilities (OKU) and two posthumous recipients also received degrees. Of the 4,319 graduates, 1,272 are males and 3,047 females.

The Head of State, Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sabah, Tun Dr Juhar Mahiruddin, presented degrees to 461 graduates at the first session at the UMS Chancellor's Hall.

Juhar who is also the Chancellor of UMS, also presented the Pelajaran Diraja Award (Bumiputera and Non-Bumiputera), Chancellor's Gold Medal, Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal, Alumni Gold Medal, Zainal Abidin Bador Prize, Tun Zaki Prize (Local and International) and HiUMS

Student Excellence and Devotion Award to outstanding graduates.

In the second session in the afternoon, 987 graduates received their degrees from UMS Pro-Chancellor Tan Sri Azman Hashim.

Azman, who is also the honorary advisor of Ambank Group, is also scheduled to complete the presentation of the degrees on Sunday to 732 graduates in the morning and 596 graduates in the afternoon.

The presentation of the degrees on the final day on Monday will be completed by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Datuk ChM. Ts. Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin involving a total of 896 graduates in the morning and 647 graduates in the evening.

The first group of 27 graduates from the Faculty of Islamic Studies (FIS) will also be receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Islamic Studies.

Throughout the convocation, the 'tamu gadang' activities, namely exhibitions, sales and performances, displaying the diversity of the Sabahans, are held at the university, which is now almost 28 years old.

Taufiq said UMS also still required all graduates, parents and staff involved to wear face masks when attending the convocation ceremony.

He also expressed his gratitude and pride when the marketability of UMS graduates increased from 90 per cent in 2019 to 96.2 per cent last year, exceeding the target of 94 per cent.

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