## HAPPY RETIREMENT 2014 MR ZALL KEPLI MD REJAB

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School of Psychology and Social Work





## IT HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL 8 YEARS **MY ORIGINS COMING TO SABAH**

I am from Perak, a West Malaysia Northen state. My state of Perak is famous for its Taiping Lake Garden, a very picturesque area.

We also have the oldest prison in Malaysia. Before I joined Universiti Malaysia Sabah, I was attached to the Prison Department working as a drug counselor for a total of 33 years. Then came UMS at 2008

When I first came here, I am bewildered by this beautiful place. This is an evergreen paradise. You have the sea, the mountains and rivers. Highs and lows in one place. The people too are beautiful here. I also found the food here to be very delicious and there is a different way of preparing the cuisine here compared to West Malaysia.







## **COUNSELLING FIELD**

Yes, my field is in counselling. Counselling is basically how one person helps another through purposeful conversation. This is a method of identifying practical solution to an identified problem. My practice of counselling first started with Penor Prison (Penjara Penor) in Kuantan Pahang in the year 1979. This is when the drug addiction and its rehabilitation was focused on. During this time, 2 expert were brought over from the United States and they came to train us here in Malaysia. I've completed the diploma course held in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in 1984 and my Masters (UKM) in 2000.



## **7 YEARS OF RUNNING COUNSELLING IN UMS**

I was the coordinator for the Masters in Counselling Psychology (Substance Abuse) Postgraduate Diploma In Drug Abuse) in UMS also known in Bahasa Malaysia as SPADA (Sarjana Psikologi Kaunseling (Penyalahgunaan Dadah) & Diploma Pascasiswazah Dalam Penyalahgunaan Dadah). This is a good program as currently there is no other SPADA program in Malaysian's Public Universiti other then in UMS and in USIM (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia). The response was very good when we started this. It is widely used now from practitioners to educators.