

# Debate, a Platform to Mould Excellent Undergrads: Vice-Chancellor

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**WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY** – Debate Competition is a platform to uncover talents through the development of ideas besides being able to express ideas and arguments.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd. Harun Abdullah said it can indirectly empower creative thinking and uplift the credibility of students as undergrads who have superior knowledge literacy.

“This is because debaters need to master certain knowledge and knowledge that are related to current issues. In addition, they also need to deepen their skills in public speaking. The arguments put forward should be thoughtful and supported by authentic facts. This combination would persuade the audience to believe on the ideas presented,” he said when delivering his speech at the finals of the 16<sup>th</sup> Royal Debate Competition. Also present was the Chairman of the Malaysian Universities Debating Council (MADUM), Prof. Datuk Mizan Hitam.

Datuk Dr. Harun added, as an undergrad the desire to keep on learning and studying should always be within us and to practice what we have learned for the benefit of community and ourselves.

He further advised the undergrads who had the debating skills to always use the skills sensibly without touching on sensitive issues that could affect harmony and prosperity of the nation.

“As Malaysians, being educated, knowledgeable and logical, we should bear the responsibility entrusted and together maintain peace and harmony in our country. Indirectly, we also help to produce a generation who are excellent, bright and with credibility,” he added.

Officiating the event was the Head of State, Tun (Dr.) Haji Juhar Datuk Haji Mahiruddin cum Chancellor of UMS. – *SS (fl)*

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