

## UMS Held Online PEP 2020 Program Registration and New Students Welcoming Session

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**MONDAY, 17 AUGUST** - Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) held a registration and introduction session for new students of UMS in-house English language program, Progressive English Program (PEP).

According to UMS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Datuk ChM. Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin, this is the sixth cohort and it will be conducted fully online for the first time, with a total of 24 students from China have attended and registered, and the duration of the program is for twenty one weeks.

“This PEP Program registration is the second program receiving their new batch of international students after UMS Foundation for Science and Technology which had their registration from the 3rd to 7th of this month.

“This is the 6th group since the PEP program was launched at UMS in August 2018.

“However, this program has gone through many improvements and evolutions over the year, with the first English language program was named the Intensive English Language Program (IELP) started in 2004 which

conducted by the Centre for the Promotion of Knowledge and Language Learning.

“Then it is changed to the International Students' Foundation Program (ISFP) and has now been substantially improved and named the Progressive English Program (PEP),” he said.

Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap added that, the emergence of the Covid-19 Pandemic which causes almost worldwide blockade of movement did not limit UMS from continuing the recruitment of international students by pursuing online studies and virtual learning platforms.

“Various adaptations of technology and applications have been made in promoting a more interactive and effective virtual academic learning platforms as the “new normal”.

“Although Remote Online Teaching and Learning may seem new to us all, UMS believes the younger generation are arguably digital natives, whom are able

to easily adapt to such a digital transformation, with minimal hassle,” Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap said.

He also noted that this sixth group of PEP program will be held virtually in terms of lectures, tutorials and final exams.

“After completing this program, students who pass any of the accepted language proficiency certificates will continue their studies at the undergraduate or postgraduate level at UMS.

“The university is also currently planning to introduce this program to other foreign countries in the future, since this programme right now focusing on recruitment from China student,” he said.

Besides the introductory session with Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap, the 24 student involved also having the discussion and registration session with Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International), Prof. Dr. Rasid Mail; Director of the Centre for Internationalisation and Global Engagement (PPPG), Prof. Dr. Ho Chong Mun; PPIB Dean, Associate Professor Dr. Lai Yew Meng; and several lecturer.