

Amanat Naib Canselor 2012

BRIG. JEN. PROF. DATUK SERI PANGLIMA DR. KAMARUZAMAN HJ. AMPON

Tarikh: 3 FEBRUARI 2012 (JUMAAT) Masa: 8 PAGI | Tempat: DEWAN CANSOLOR



Kamaruzaman (middle) with other UMS officials at the Vice Chancellor Message 2012 ceremony at the university's Chancellor's Hall yesterday.

UMS identifies four main focuses – vice chancellor

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) has identified four main focuses on its agenda this year, namely academic excellence, empowerment of research and innovation activities, strengthening the university's administration and management, and promoting closer ties with the community and the industry.

Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Kamaruzaman Ampun said in terms of academic achievements, UMS was committed towards producing quality graduates who are balanced in all aspects.

For this, he said the university must ensure that its students could master seven main elements including communication skills, critical thinking and teamwork, continuous learning and information management, entrepreneurship, moral and professional ethics, and finally leadership values.

"At the same time, a learning concept that is based on result and students or SCL is also introduced. To better improve its function,

the role of Entrepreneurship Research and Development will also be reviewed," he said when addressing students and lecturers during the UMS Vice Chancellor 2012 Message, yesterday.

Kamaruzaman said UMS has set a target for students to achieve a minimum score of 6.5 for every skill domain under the Malaysian Soft Skills Scale (My3S).

He noted that starting this year the (Education) Ministry will give a detailed briefing on the student's achievement in My3S test, which allows weaker students to be identified.

Meanwhile, he said 63 undergraduate programmes have been registered under the Malaysian Qualifications Register (MQR) UMS was in the process of registering one more programme.

"Towards further improving the learning and teaching quality, the academicians need to diversify the techniques in delivering courses by practising at least one SCL method.

"As of December last year, only

about 15 per cent of the courses in UMS were in blended learning mode. Our target is to achieve 20 per cent this year.

"UMS has been given Level Four under the Malaysian Higher Education Institutions Rating System (Setara) in 2009, which was an improvement from Level Three in 2007, and our target is to achieve Level Five," he said.

Kamaruzaman said this year will also see UMS adopting the Discipline-based Rating (D-Setara) involving the School of Engineering and Information technology, Schools of Medicine and School of Business Studies and Economy.

For research and innovation, Kamaruzaman said UMS has set a target of improving its Malaysia Research Assessment Instrument (MyRA) score from 45 to 70 per cent by 2015.

"To reach this target, every component needs to be boosted including high impact publications or index journals which are still not in satisfactory level.

"Last year, the number of

index journal publications was only 51, and this year we aim 80 publications in line with the number of academicians in UMS, namely 800 individuals," he added.

Meanwhile, Kamaruzaman said UMS is now ranked 1,289 of world university in Webometric, the 28th in South East Asia and the eighth in Malaysia.

He said the establishment of Syarikat Terbitan Universiti could also be the medium to commercialize the institution's research findings.

Incepted in 1994, UMS now has about 17,000 students with some 500 international students.

Not including tutors, UMS has 812 staff with 38 per cent holding PhD level and 15 per cent of them being international academicians, the highest amongst all public higher learning institutions in Malaysia.

It consists of thirteen schools in Kota Kinabalu and Labuan, offering 64 programmes and has produced about 36,500 graduates so far.