

Kamaruzaman accompanied by UMS registrar cum organising chairman Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said (left) visiting the exhibition booth after the launching ceremony yesterday.

## High sense of integrity crucial — UMS Board of Directors chairman

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KOTA KINABALU: A high sense of integrity is crucial in maintaining the trust and confidence of the public, said Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Board of Directors chairman Tan Sri Hamid Egoh.

"Civil servants are custodians of public interest.

"If none of us have a high sense of integrity, then the trust and confidence of the people will elude us," said Hamid in his speech for the opening ceremony of the second annual Integrity Month at UMS yesterday. It was delivered by Professor Datuk Dr Kamaruzaman Hj Ampon.

He added that power, wealth, status and knowledge without integrity would be meaningless in earning a good name for oneself.

"This is what will be recorded in history and what

the people will remember us for," he said.

Kamaruzaman said the government had decided on introducing the University Good Governance Index to measure the readiness of a university to become autonomous.

The four components that will be audited are Institutional Governance, Finance, Human Resource Management and Academic Governance.

"(In achieving UMS' goal in becoming autonomous), good governance is not enough without the inclusion of high integrity in accordance with the concept of human governance," he added.

According to Kamaruzaman, five research universities including UM, UKM, UPM, USM and UTM are now autonomous since the

beginning of this year and UMS, among four others, have been selected for phase two of the evaluation process.

"The people of UMS need to be role models to the public, especially considering UMS' position as an institute of higher learning that is trusted to produce human capital that will be a part of the community," he said.

