

UMS' Kekaumas members in a group photo with Abdullah (front row, eleventh from right) with Kekaumas President, Amat Jutrah Hi Musnih (front row, tenth from right).

## Improve work performance, UMS staff told

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KOTA KINABALU: Members of Universiti Malaysia Sabah's (UMS) supporting staff union (Kekaumas) were told to improve their work performance ahead of the expected announcement on the Public Service New Remuneration Scheme (SBPA).

UMS Chief Registrar, Datuk Major Abdullah Hj Mohd Said, said the new SBPA will likely come with stricter staff evaluation system and recruitment procedures.

"The new systems are aimed to ensure a lean organisation to tackle tasks and easier for everyone to get a promotion and salary increment.

"On the contrary under performing staff may also be forced to take an early retirement," Abdullah said during a Kekaumas assembly at the UMS School of Arts. Recital Hall on Tuesday. He also said he would also be in Kuala Lumpur with the Kekaumas president to attend the Cuepacs meeting this March 12.

Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak is expected to announce the outcome of the SBPA review at a gathering organised by Cuepacs.

Currently, UMS has about 2,381 staff with 933 academic staff while the remainder are support staff making them the biggest number the university has.

Abdullah said there is no denying that UMS support staff play a vital role in the success of the university's core business.

He said Kekaumas had also been very vocal on highlighting the problems of the university and one of the channels is through the department meetings with the three core bodies in the university. The three bodies are Kekaumas, Academic Staff Union and the Professional and Management Officers Body.

"Kekaumas president, Amat Jutrah Hj Musnih has been very vocal during the meeting.

"He has discussed with us the issue of overtime for our bus drivers and also put out proposals for the UMS management to consider," he said.

Abdullah also told Kekaumas members to be carry out their duties well and become good leaders to solve their everyday tasks.

He told them to plan their work at UMS and identify long-tem and shortterm goals they want to achieve for the betterment of the university.

Meanwhile, Amat Jutrah said the union currently has about 700 members since its formation in the late 90s.