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# Continue pursuit for success, excellence – UMS graduates told

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KOTA KINABALU: New graduates of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) were told at the university's fifth convocation yesterday to continue the pursuit for success and excellence even after having obtained a degree.

Vice chancellor, Prof Tan Sri Dr Abu Hassan Othman said this was necessary in order for them to face the challenges and competitive demands of the globalisation era in the working world.

"Do not think that getting a degree is the end to success because the demands of a career and life in the real world are far more challenging," he said on the second day of the 5th UMS Convocation at the university near here yesterday.

He stressed on the impor-

tance of mastering the English language and other foreign languages as a value added asset to increase viability in the employment market.

"Each graduate must have his or her own software of success which includes positive values such as confidence, discipline, trustworthiness and piety to build up character," he said.

Therefore, he urged them to continue aspiring for excellence and inculcate a life-long habit of learning whether at work or when pursuing even higher studies.

On the university, Dr Abu Hassan said UMS will keep on moving forward and focus on enriching its educational programmes to become a world class university.

One instance is the introduction of a bachelor degree in medicine which will start in the nine-year-old universi-

ty's 2003/2004 session.

It has already scored several achievements in the research field when it succeeded in commercialising the products of some of its projects which include the seaweed study by the Borneo Marine Research Institute, kacip fatimah study by the Biology and Tropical Conservation Institute and the low-cost housing study based on oil palm waste by the School of Engineering and Information Technology.

Yesterday, 1,100 graduates received their bachelor degrees in Science, Economics, Education and Business while on Saturday 1,307 received theirs from UMS Chancellor, Tun Haji Ahmadshah Abdullah who is also the Head of State.

Four of the recipients on the first day obtained their doctorates, 21 masters and the remainder their bachelor degrees.