

UMS among best: TYT

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Kota Kinabalu: Head of State Tun Ahmadshah Abdullah said Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is now one of the best local universities despite only a decade in operation. The UMS Chancellor said the university was a popular choice judging by its enrolment which had reached 17,275. UMS students had also made their mark locally and internationally through academic achievements, he said at the 6th UMS Convocation in Likas Bay, near here, Sunday.

"For example, one of the School of Science and Technology student was selected winner of the inaugural Malaysian Solid State Science and Technology Society (MASS) 2002/2004 Awards for the category of best Bachelor of Science final year dissertation," he said. He said UMS also entered the 32nd International Exhibition of Invention of New Techniques and Products in Geneva, Switzerland in April and bagged seven medals - one gold, five silver and a bronze. "The university was also recognised for being chosen to participate in international welfare activities by Raleigh International in rural areas in Sabah and Sarawak," he said. He urged graduates to grab whatever opportunities that come their way to further their career prospects. "I urge the graduates today to act positively by taking advantage of the opportunities to further their studies in the fields that they are interested in," he said. He said knowledge is a long-term investment since it assures the students of their future. At the same time, Ahmadshah said they should also be thankful for the support given by their loved ones, including the lecturers and professors who have widened their thinking horizon. He said all humans crave for success as well as to have a better life and that could only be achieved through determination and resilience. "This we can observe through water that drips from a cave ceiling onto the stones below. "The water (although soft) could create a cavity on the stones not through its strength but without stopping," he said.

He said UMS should not be contented with the achievements but continue contributing towards knowledge and technology developments.

He said the step taken by the university through its Excellence Research Centre to implement several smart partnership projects with the industry sector and relevant agencies is a smart move indeed.

Among the smart partnerships include also with Zisha International Kosmetik Sdn Bhd to produce cosmetics using seaweed.

"I would be very proud if Kota Kinabalu would also become a centre of attraction for the university's credibility apart from its natural environment attraction," he said.

Ahmadshah said the university must be dedicated with its working and studying culture by practising time management and co-operating with each other.