

City buses barred from UMS campus

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⊗ J, a part time student at the **University Malaysia Sabah (UMS)**, is wondering what happened to the public buses that usually stop inside the campus compound.

He said that the management's move to stop the public buses from entering the compound has severely inconvenienced its students.

"The UMS campus is very big: it took me 25 minutes to walk through the campus to my classes. It was never like this. The buses would normally be allowed to enter the compound," he tells *Actionline*.

According to him, the students were given to understand that the management of UMS is in the midst of negotiating with private transport operators to provide services into the compound, but the deal has not been finalised yet.

"I hope they make arrangements for us soon," J said. "I cannot afford to waste so much time. It has almost been a week that I had to walk up to the campus to attend morning classes.



A community service column for the public

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• LISA DAPHNE & ALMAWATI RAKIM IN ATTENDANCE

"There are other students who are also travelling with me to catch up with their classes there. Sometimes we arrive late and this is a hassle.

"I wish the management would consider the plight of students who rely on public transport," he said.

⊙ When contacted, a spokesman for the UMS campus first stated that aggrieved students should direct their complaints through proper channel and not through the media.

He then explained that the management had decided to change bus companies for transport into UMS because the erstwhile

provider did not have proper permits from the Commercial Vehicles Licensing Board.

The officer informed us that the previous bus operator does not have the requisite insurance coverage

either. This, he said, would jeopardise the safety of their students.

The spokesman said that were about eight new buses with the necessary licenses and permits ready to operate within the campus.

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