

UMS wants own hospital

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By Chris Maskilone

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) wants to set up its own hospital not for profit but to provide an avenue for its medical lecturers and specialists to conduct their activities.

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Mohd Noh Dalimin, said at the moment they were using Queen Elizabeth Hospital and it was time for UMS to start the project.

Speaking at the UMS Consultancy and Training Services Centre's (CTSC) 10th anniversary as well as presentation ceremony for the UMS Off Campus Student Dean Award ceremony at Le Meridien, Sunday, he said if the hospital were set up it would encourage health care specialists to work in UMS.

At the same time, the CTSC was also formulating a special programme for unemployed graduates in Sabah for the Higher Education Ministry.

"We have just held a meeting with the

Ministry to take measures according to districts and to give special courses to graduates from all public higher learning institutes. We will implement this in Sabah once the funding is approved," he said.

Among the proposals is to teach Mandarin to non-Chinese students, he said.

Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Yahya Hussin hoped the CTSC and UMS would be sensitive to the various needs of the community in Sabah, which differed from those in other states.

Agriculture and environment-based programmes must be extended while diploma and certificate level programmes need to be increased, he said.

"We want to see more Sabahans improve their education status, I am confident UMS can play this role better," he said, adding that he was also optimistic that UMS can assist the State government realise its aspiration to progress by providing quality human capital.