



The dialogue session in progress, featuring five industry panellists.

UMS FPEP reviews curriculum with industry input

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KOTA KINABALU: The Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy (FPEP), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), recently held a town hall and dialogue session to review its academic curricula in line with current industry needs and job market demands.

FPEP Dean, Associate Professor Dr Mohd Rahimie Abd Karim, said the session on Tuesday aimed to ensure the curriculum remains relevant amid rapid technological changes, particularly the growth of artificial intelligence.

He said universities must now produce graduates who are not only technically competent but also possess logical, creative and

ethical thinking skills.

"Students need to be equipped with the ability to generate ideas, exercise judgement and adapt to real workplace situations, not merely be proficient in using technology," he emphasised.

The session featured industry panellists from various sectors, including FPEP adjunct professor and chairman of Sabah Berhad and Pelaburan Hartanah Berhad, Hj Mohamad Damshal Awang Damit; senior business development manager of ePRINTit USA, Julian Goh; and Petronas Floating LNG executive cum FPEP alumnus, Dzulkarnain Kanik.

The other panellists were PKF

PLT Senior Manager for Audit and Assurance, Aleeza John; and Borneo Books Track manager Nur Syuhadah Zolkifli.

The forum was moderated by Professor Dr Rasid Mail.

The panellists highlighted challenges faced by students during industrial training, including adapting to unfamiliar tasks and workplace expectations.

"This indicates the need for universities to provide more practical and flexible guidance and training modules so that students can apply their knowledge more effectively," he said.

Meanwhile, deputy dean (Academic) cum the session

coordinator, Dr Sharifah Milda Amirul, said industrial industry feedback helped key curriculum improvements.

"The outcomes of this dialogue have identified several key recommendations for curriculum review, and adjustments were implemented immediately during review sessions with programme heads and programme members," she said.

"Through this engagement with industry, FPEP is confident it can produce a curriculum review capable of nurturing versatile, creative and competitive graduates, in line with industry needs and the national and global job market."