

UMS 'teaching factory' role

Sabah's vision for varsity set to come true with creation of science park

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is poised to become a "teaching factory" once it establishes a science park.

State secretary Datuk KY Mustafa said the science park, to be called USciPark, would be a platform to bridge the gap between UMS and industry players.

"The USciPark will be the training ground for scholars and students to enhance their skills and research interest," he said at a forum between UMS and industry players on the setting up of the park at the university, here, yesterday.

Mustafa said industry players should occupy and simultaneously assist UMS in the setting up of incubators and providing grants to promote research and commercialisation activities.

"If the industries require universities to produce the quality and innovative brains that meet industry requirements, then they must play a bigger role by acting as business coaches to scientists, scholars and students," he said.

He said synergy between university and industry was vital to ensure research inventions, technologies, products and services met market demand.

»The science park will add value and be the catalyst of modern economic and ICT growth«

DATUK KY. MUSTAFA

"The science park will add value and be the catalyst of modern economic and ICT growth, and contribute to the moral development of the people in Sabah.

"This can only materialise if the industries and the university jointly promote research, development and commercialisation," he said.

Mustafa said that the university enjoyed enormous strength of experts and scientists who, however, needed support and funding to further test and calibrate their inventions.

As such, sponsorship and cooperation from the industries were required, he said, adding that industries would benefit from the reduced cost of human capital.