



Kasim (centre) presenting the letter of appointment to Yaakob (second right). Also seen is Saadiah (right).

Bridging the industry gap

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KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd Chief Executive Officer Datuk Mohd Yaakob Jaafar was appointed member of the CEO@Faculty Programme at Universiti Malaysia Sabah's (UMS) Faculty of Science and Technology.

The appointment was presented by UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Kasim Mansor at a ceremony held at the UMS Chancellery Building's Executive Board Meeting Room on Monday, in the presence of Sabah Electricity Board of Directors Chairman Saadiah Aziz.

The CEO@Faculty Programme is a Higher Education Ministry initiative designed to bridge the gap between academia and industry by connecting chief executives and industry leaders with higher learning institutions.

Through the programme, participants share leadership experience, mentor lecturers and students, and contribute to curriculum development aligned with current industry needs.

Yaakob's appointment is a natural fit given the faculty's strengths in science,

technology and environmental sustainability particularly in energy technology development and the exploration of green energy.

"Through this programme, the faculty aims to strengthen its strategic relationship with the energy industry, especially Sabah Electricity, to expand collaboration in developing new academic programmes, research opportunities and innovation, including the development of a competitive human capital," the university said in a statement Wednesday.

On top of curriculum input, Yaakob is expected to participate in leadership sharing sessions, strategic discussions on the energy sector, and the exploration of cooperation in renewable energy and sustainable energy technology.

UMS hopes that the appointment would open further avenues of collaboration between the university and industry in support of sustainable energy development and produce graduates better prepared for future industry challenges, particularly in Sabah.