UMS enrolls 276 for pre-science programme

KOTA KINABALU: A total of 276 new students were yesterday enrolled to undergo a pre-science programme at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).

According to the university's director of science and technology preparatory centre, Dr Sazmal Effendi Arshad, 158 of the students are from Sabah, while the rest are from other parts of the country.

Disclosing this to reporters after a welcoming ceremony at the Dewan Pascasiswazah, Sazmal Effendi said that the students have been enrolled under the third intake to pursue the programme conducted by the university.

Meanwhile, vice chancellor Professor Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon said the programme initially began with 33 students for the 2010/2011 session and increased to 60 for the following session.

"This year, the university welcomes students not only from Sabah but also those from Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak.

"The meeting of these students from the three regions of the country will hopefully benefit them and foster the exchange of ideas and cooperation as well as promotion of unity irrespective of race, creed, religion or origin," Kamaruzaman said.

The pre-science programme of the university started on April 26, 2010 aimed at preparing students with strong knowledge of the basic sciences to pursue for courses at UMS leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science.

The students were reminded that it is no longer easy for anyone to gain entry into public universities.

Kamaruzaman said, "you have to understand that stiff competitions exist amongst students for placement into public universities," adding that the number of students who excel in their studies surges annually have forcibly set the competitions into motion.

"Some will succeed to obtain the placements and some will fail. So the students who get accepted should feel grateful to be among the few to be selected to study here," he remarked.

The new batch of pre-science students at UMS after the welcoming ceremony yesterday.