

UMS seeks to reduce RM1.5 million monthly power bill

BP 02.06.2012 AA

KOTA KINABALU: The Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) community has been urged to treat the university as a laboratory for innovations.

The university is equipped with the expertise it needs to address issues that require solutions, said vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon said during the launch of the UMS Engineering and Information Technology School's book titled 'Strategic Planning Beyond 2020: Reinforcing the Foundation of School of Engineering and Information Technology' yesterday.

Citing the university's high electricity bill of RM1.5 million per month as one of the key

areas that need looking into, he said the School of Engineering and Information Technology (SKTM) has included in the book a working paper that focused on utility and energy savings strategies within SKTM.

"The challenge is the deployment of such strategies to the whole of UMS and help it reduce its expenditure," he said.

Kamaruzaman said various efforts have been made to encourage efficient energy use, such as the use of energy saving bulbs and scheduled maintenance of M&E assets.

Meanwhile, the vice chancellor said the percentage of SKTM graduates who secure jobs within six months of completing their courses at UMS is between

80 percent and 94.5 percent.

Some of the graduates are working in Singapore, Dubai and Hong Kong, he said.

"This percentage shows that the demand for specialized workers within the region is very high, and UMS needs to increase its commitment in the production of high quality graduates to meet the local and foreign market demand," he said.

Kamaruzaman also mentioned the possibility of establishing an oil and gas school in UMS.

"We have to be prepared... maybe we will establish oil and gas school," he said. The move, he said, is geared towards strengthening the oil and gas industry in Sabah.