

# UMS, KYS link-up in human resource development

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Kolej Yayasan Sabah (KYS) yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate in the development of human resource in Sabah.

The MoU is considered a smart partnership between both institutions with UMS lending assistance through its Schools of Engineering and Information Technology and Business and Economics to KYS.

UMS vice-chancellor Professor Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah explained that the MoU is an appreciation for UMS to be involved in the academic development of KYS, which will benefit both parties impacting on the quality and quantity of skilled human resources in Sabah.

"I believe the adoption of this 'Blue Ocean Strategy' is in line with the government transformation programme in promoting the effective implementation of the national development plan," said Mohd Harun.

He added UMS would help KYS in offering the course leading to the BA in Engineering Technology, specialising in automotive technology and building construction technology since the university's School of Engineering and Information Technology has the ability to offer its expertise.

The School of Business and Economics is one of the most intact schools in UMS, especially with its extensive experience in handling various degree programmes in business, finance and tourism.

Mohd Harun went on to state that with the short distance separating the institutions, the collaboration will in the future produce competitive graduates who will assume an important role in generating international findings and negotiations.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the KYS board of governors, Datuk Kamal DE Quadra, lauded the MoU as an expression of intent and means to promote quality education to the younger generation in Sabah



Quadra (second left) and Mohd Harun (second right) exchanging the signed MoU, witnessed by Tan Sri Khalil (centre) and other officers.

and at the same time to uplift KYS to a higher plenary level.

Meanwhile, Yayasan Sabah director Tan Sri Datu Khalil Datu Jamalul disclosed that KYS is in a positive mode for upgrade into

a university status, adding that discussions are ongoing with the relevant ministry.

"We are still in the planning stage but we have started the groundwork. We have approached the ministry

and we have started construction of the new campus in Sembulan.

"The whole building structure will be completed by year-end, and will be functional by June 2013," he said.