

Tripartite varsity pact to study arts and culture

RESEARCH LINKS: Universiti Malaysia Sabah inks deal with two Indonesian universities

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UNIVERSITI Malaysia Sabah will be collaborating with two Indonesian universities to carry out research in arts and culture.

Yesterday, it inked a memorandum of Understanding with Universitas Sebelas Maret (UNS) and Universitas Negeri Semarang (Unnes) to pave the way for this research.

This also marked UMS' first collaboration with the two universities.

At a ceremony here, UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah expressed hope that the School of Art Studies would come up with a good action plan to benefit both countries. The school is representing the university in signing the MoU.

He said the school's Borneo heritage research unit, for instance, could study and share the various creative, visual and musical arts of ethnic communities in the state.

"The uniqueness and richness of the communities in both nations should be understood and for this purpose, I suggest the exchange of students and teaching

"Exchange of expertise and experience could give fresh ideas

for all three universities to develop their own programmes."

Prof Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah
UMS vice-chancellor



UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah (left) and Universitas Negeri Semarang Vice-Rector for Development and Collaboration Prof Dr Fathur Rokhman exchanging the memorandum of understanding between the two universities. Pic by Zunnur Al Shafiq

staff for few months through academic and industrial training programmes.

"Exchange of expertise and experience could give fresh ideas for all three universities to develop their own programmes."

Unnes Vice-Rector for Develop-

ment and Collaboration Prof Dr Fathur Rokhman said although it was not the first time that the university had worked with a higher learning institute from Malaysia, it was an exciting experience to do so with UMS.

"It would increase understanding of our background and prove to be interesting as both countries

shared common roots."

UNS Vice-Rector for Partnerships and Business Development Dr Widodo Muktiyo said the MoU could also pave the way for cooperation in other fields in future.

"This is also our effort to venture internationally and Malaysia, being a neighbouring country, is an excellent place to start."