

# Make full use of creative writing skills, students urged

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Students participating in the creative writing workshop organised by the Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council should make full use of what they have learnt in the two-day event.

The workshop chairman, Council UTM Publisher Senior Chief Publishing Officer Khalid Mazlan said the skills they picked up could be applied in their examinations.

He also expressed hope that in five years, some of the students attending the workshop would become part of the world's literary arena as prolific writers.

Khalid disclosed that the Council had 27 members comprising of government agencies and government linked bodies.

Of the total, 20 were public higher learning institutes, he said, adding that the council's objective was to unite the synergy and initiative to implement, steer and develop publishing activities and marketing of scholarly books in Malaysia.

The workshop, which was held at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), was attended by students from the Council's adopted schools, namely



SM St Michael Penampang senior assistant of Students Affair Winnie Phan receiving books donated by the council.

SM St Michael Penampang, SM Sungai Damit Tuaran and SM Bundu Tuhan Ranau.

The 62 students from SM St Michael, 50 from SM Sungai Damit and SM Bundu Tuhan are all in Form Four and were randomly selected by their respective schools.

Their participation in the workshop is part of their preparations for the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination which they will be sitting for next year.

Meanwhile UMS vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah in his speech also called on the students to

apply what they had learnt in the workshop when answering examination questions.

"This is a priceless opportunity which must be put to good use and I hope that all of you will give your full attention to the workshop as what you learn will help to improve your writing skills," he said.

Mohd Harun's speech was delivered by UMS Publishing Unit director Prof Dr Syed Azizi Wafa Syed Khalid Wafa.

"If you come to UMS today as participants of this workshop, it is not impossible that in the future you will come to the campus as undergraduates," he said.