

Wuyi University engineering students at UMS for courses

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KOTA KINABALU: Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Sabah Chinese culture activist Datuk Susan Wong Siew Guen in strengthening the Sino-Malaysia relation, a group of 25 engineering students from Wuyi University in Jiangmen City, China has arrived at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) to undertake project management and English language courses.

The student exchange programme was the result of the signing of a Letter of Intent (LOI) between Wuyi University and UMS, which was witnessed by the Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Kota Kinabalu, Liang Caide in October, last year.

Prior to this, on June 24 this year, UMS sent its first batch of eight engineering students to Wuyi University for a two-month training course on high-speed rail management and maintenance.

In a press release issued Friday, Professor Yang Baojian



APPRECIATION ... Dr Ismail (front row, 7th right) and Wong (centre) with the students from Wuyi University during the welcoming dinner.

and Professor Yang Min from Wuyi University noted that the Chinese students felt honoured and elated to partake in the exchange programme.

Although the learning of the English language was equally emphasised at Wuyi University, it would be the students' first experience in attending classes with English as the

medium of instruction, the professors acknowledged.

"This is a valuable experience for the students to not only learn about project management in Sabah, but also to enhance their English proficiency in expressing their ideas and views.

"We hope that the exchange programme will be a long-term activity," they added.

Meanwhile, UMS Faculty of Engineering deputy dean Dr Ismail Saad thanked Wong who is the United Sabah Sze Yip Association president, for facilitating the cooperation between Wuyi University and UMS and ultimately enabled students from both universities to benefit from the exchange programme.

He said the initiative also exposed UMS' reputation to the academia in China, the Guangdong province especially.

Yang Baojian also expressed his appreciation to Wong for her assistance and support for facilitating the student exchange programme.

"Since Datuk Susan Wong was appointed as a director of

Wuyi University, she has been actively promoting exchanges between both universities.

"I hope she will continue to assist students from Wuyi University to UMS for visits and courses," he said.

A dinner was hosted by Wong for the group of Chinese students upon their arrival on August 21.