

Dr D. Kamarudin: UMS will be more dynamic

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KOTA KINABALU: Prof Dr D. Kamarudin D. Mudin who was recently appointed the fifth Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is determined to make the university more effective in responding to the needs of the its stakeholders.

Dr D. Kamarudin replaces Prof Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah with effect on 18 June and yesterday said UMS would respond to the aspirations of the Ministry of Higher Education, the government and the people who want to see it become a dynamic university.

"That means, the university cannot be left behind in technology, teaching and learning techniques, and research if UMS is to be elevated at the global stage.

"Borneo is a place where there is plenty to be explored in many fields and has great potentials in tourism and biodiversity. Environmental sustainability will also be our main focus," he told Bernama after officiating at the gathering of the National Professors Council for the UMS Chapter here yesterday.

As Vice-Chancellor, he in-



JOB CREATORS ... Dr D. Kamarudin (front, 4th left) with the academicians of UMS at the gathering of the National Professors Council for the UMS Chapter here yesterday.

tends to emphasise on the university's financial sustainability to enable it to become independent with the ability to launch programmes that benefit society.

Dr D. Kamarudin said in order to achieve that objective, the university needed to have the capability and viability to explore fields that are yet unexplored.

"Perhaps we will look at governance within UMS.

What can be changed, we will change to ensure financial sustainability. It could be in terms of the existing information system or perhaps our academicians' and administrators' way of thinking.

He believes that with full support, including the Chief Minister of Sabah, the state government and the Ministry of Higher Education, financial sustainability can be achieved by optimising all the univer-

sity's assets including land that was given to UMS.

The effort, he said, was in line with what UMS had aspired to do, which was to produce graduates who are "job creators" and not "job seekers".

"UMS must be able to explore new fields and possess the creativity to carry out its activities without depending entirely on the government's budget," he said.