

UMS to work with Bernama to enhance rural news coverage

KUALA LUMPUR: The School of Social Sciences of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is to hold a workshop to train journalists reporting from rural Sabah to enhance their capacity of coverage there.

Dean of the UMS School of Social Sciences Prof Datuk Mohd Hamdan Adnan said yesterday the workshop was expected to be held over five days in October with the collaboration of the Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama) and the Sabah Journalists Association.

"This workshop will help to enhance the capacity of journalists in identifying development issues and analysing them to provide comprehensive and accurate coverage.

"We feel this is important because

rural Sabah is huge. As such, it requires coverage in terms of the transformation and development which occur there," he told Bernama after a visit to the news agency.

Mohd Hamdan said that initially 30 journalists would attend the workshop at the UMS campus in Kota Kinabalu, and similar workshops would be held at other places in Sabah.

"The important thing is for us to ensure that the workshop modules are suitable to enhance the capacity of journalists to provide the best coverage of rural Sabah," he said.

Meanwhile, Bernama's Deputy Editor-in-Chief (Domestic News Service) Datuk Zakaria Abdul Wahab said the news agency was prepared to collaborate with any university or or-

ganisation in the field of journalism.

"We have our very own Bernama School of Journalism and we are prepared to work with UMS because we have many senior journalists with 20 to 30 years of experience who can teach.

"It is the policy of Bernama to provide coverage throughout Malaysia. We have offices in Sandakan and Tawau in Sabah and journalists there report from areas remote from Kuala Lumpur," he said.

Zakaria said the workshop would help the local journalists generate news on the villages, districts, culture and interesting aspects which could be read by the people not only in Sabah but also in the peninsula as well. - Bernama

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UMS celebrates Hari Raya with difference this year

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) celebrated Hari Raya with a difference this year with the involvement of 31 departments, schools, centres, and institutes in preparing their own Raya specialties.

According to UMS Registrar, Lt Col Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said, the concept was intended to provide an opportunity to all UMS citizens to foster good camaraderie amongst themselves while enjoying the delicacies at the same time.

As the organising chairman, Abdullah said that the participation of the various UMS agencies was livelier with the best food stall competition.

"Considering UMS as an EcoCampus University, EcoCampus elements are also considered in the competition criteria," he said.

The School of Psychology and Social Work won the competition for commanding the most visitors, making it the most



UMS citizens cheering while enjoying the delicacies.

popular stall. The school received a prize of RM1,500 in cash and a certificate.

The second place was claimed by the School of Arts Studies while the Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation won the third place. Each agency received RM1,000 and RM500 in cash and a cer-

tificate respectively.

Also present at the reception were Head of State, who is also UMS Chancellor, Tun Juhar bin Mahiruddin and his wife, Toh Puan Norlidah binti RM Jasni, and Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah.



Tun Juhar (right) receiving a memento from Dr Harun (centre) as Abdullah looks on.