

Intake of medical students

Selection based

TUESDAY June 10, 2003 BORNEO MAIL

on merit: UMS

KOTA KINABALU: Selection to the medical school of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is based on merit and not on racial quota or where the students came from.

Of the first batch of 34 UMS medical students, five are from Sabah, the Director of the Centre of Corporate and International Relations of UMS, Prof Mohd Yusof Kasim clarified yesterday.

He denied an allegation by Christina Liew, the deputy chair-

person of Parti Keadilan in Sabah, who regretted that only one of the 34 was from Sabah.

"The intake of medical students in UMS is done in accordance with government policy of meritocracy, and was based purely on a student's grades and qualification, and not based on race or regional quota," he said.

Prof. Yusof added that the medical students accepted by UMS have grade point average between

3.88-4.0.

"Most of them have 4.0 average (which means straight As) in their STPM or matriculation."

UMS, set up in November 1994, took in its first batch of medical students on June 1. The university admitted about 3,000 freshmen at its main campus here this year, and another 750 at its branch campus in the Federal Territory of Labuan. The university has currently more than 10,000 students.