

# UMS launches its latest improved website

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By Murib Morpi

**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) yesterday launched its latest website, the fourth upgraded version of its official online portal since commencing operation in 1994.

Acting head of UMS Media and Technology Education Unit, Effendy Hadis, said the new website features several improvements to further enhance the university's presence on the Internet.

"This latest transformation involves not only the presentation aspect or the outer layer of the website, but also the structural aspect of the web's administration," he said.

The newly revamped www.ums.edu.my features a wider space for electronic buntings and internal advertisement, as well as better data classification and gathering system to provide easier access for visitors to search for information.

The last version was introduced in 2009.

"In other words, it's more user friendly as users would be presented with denser data which are more relevant to their search.

"Apart from the content, there are also some changes on the administrative side with the website currently being monitored by two sub-committees, namely the Technical Web Committee and the Web Management Committee," he said.

Vice-chancellor Brigadier General Professor Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon when officiating the launch, said the university would also introduce its official site on Facebook to compliment the new website.

He said this was part of the university's effort to get closer to the public, which also involves uploading related videos to be shared on Youtube.

Similar to the approach used by the Prime Minister to get closer to the people through

Facebook, Kamaruzaman added UMS would also use this second generation Internet tool to interact with the community.

"This is to provide a platform for discussion and sharing of ideas between UMS and the public. I hope this transformation would benefit not only the institution but also the local and global communities, where messages can be shared and understood easily and accurately," he said.

Kamaruzaman added UMS had recorded continuous improvement in its webometric readings as its website attracts more visitors every year.

He noted UMS' webometric placing was 1,419 as of July last year, a significant improvement compared to nearly 4,000 five years before.

Also present were deputy vice-chancellor (Student Affairs and Alumni) Professor Madya Dr Kasim Mansur and Biotechnology Research Unit director Professor Datin Seri Panglima Dr Ann Anton.



Kamaruzaman (second right) with Effendy (left), Kasim (second left) and Ann (right) at the launch of the new website.