

UMS-Aeon MoU on sharing of IT

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Aeon Co (M) Berhad have entered a strategic partnership on information and technology sharing.

Through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the UMS Chancellery on Friday, both UMS and Aeon will be looking at benefitting mostly in their human resource department.

According to UMS Deputy Vice Chancellor, Assoc Prof Dr Ismail Ali said the partnership will provide room for collaboration in sharing knowledge and technology.

"The MoU will open doors for our (UMS) students to apply for programmes under Aeon such as the Sustainable Supplier Development Programme (SSDP) and also a possibility of having a campus

recruitment for Aeon's Management Trainee programme.

"It is a culmination of interaction between our Centre for Industry Relations and Centre for University-Industry Collaboration (CUIC) of Universiti Utara Malaysia under the Industry Centre of Excellence (ICoE).

"UMS was introduced to Aeon for possible collaboration in providing talents to their organisation" said Ismail.

According to the Ismail, UMS and Aeon have already had collaborations even before the signing of the MoU, where a UMS student participated in the SSDP programme and also collaborated in organising a Food Safety Capacity Building Seminar.

"I hope the MoU we are signing today will continue to be a productive relationship between both parties," he added.

Ismail said that among the ways to overcome unemployment for fresh graduates is for universities to collaborate with industry to provide hands-on information as well as experience in the working environment by having structured internship programmes.

"When students understand the requirements and the nature of industry, it will assist them in developing professional habits such as entrepreneurial skills, better communication and also problem solving.

"I hope that this collaboration will also go beyond the edges of providing talent and also improve the community not only in the university but also other communities in Sabah," he said.

During the signing of the MoU, UMS was represented by Ismail while Aeon was represented by Human Resource Division General Manager, Etsuko Eto.