

Juhar (second from left), Harun (left), Board of Directors Chairman Tun Dato Seri Zaki Tun Azmi (second from right) and Abdullah during the cake-cutting ceremony in conjunction with the university's 20th anniversary celebration. - Photo by Rayner Majantim



# UMS alumni encouraged to contribute ideas: VC

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KOTA KINABLU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) alumni are encouraged to contribute their ideas and skills to assist in the development of the university.

"UMS always welcomes your ideas, experiences and specialities. Help us to excel throughout the development of our academic sources, research and students as well as to achieve the education's vision and mission," said UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah. He said this during the university's 20th anniversary celebration at Kompleks Dewan Kuliah Pusat ke-2, here, Monday.

According to Harun, the university throughout the years had produced a total of 46,318 graduates and most of them turned out to be successful entrepreneurs, leaders, educators and others.

He then gave an example of one of the university's product, Datin Nor Sabrina Mohd Nor, who is currently the Science, Innovation and Information Technology, Communication and High Technology Exco in Kedah. However, he explained, in order to ensure its continuous survival UMS requires hard work and improvement to be more competitive through creativity and innovation.

Those involved must not see this as a burden. Instead they should be enthusiastic and look forward to more knowledgeable young generations. "The people will get a share of the benefits gained through new researches and findings by our team of scientists in terms of publications, teaching, commercialisation of products and development of technology.

"Besides that, the university also has programmes such as community services, foster child programme, motivational programmes, voluntary programmes and others that could offer different experiences to all its students from various races and cultural background.

"Students will interact, communicate, be responsive as well as gain new experiences throughout their time spent with the community," he said, adding that they will eventually help to promote the university through their sharing of experiences to others.

Earlier, UMS Registrar cum Organising Chairman Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said explained that various activities had been held to commemorate the celebration such as:

- The 20th Anniversary Opening Ceremony Celebration;
- The launching of the building of a clock tower;

- The launching of the special stamps;
- Rentas Borneo Programme organised by the Medical and Science Health Faculty;
- 1st Regional Conference on Campus Sustainability 2014;
- Charity Golf Competition organised by Labuan International Campus, UMS (UMSKAL).
- Lupus Awareness Day; and
- Eco-Campus Run.

Towards the end, he thanked the Head of State Tun Juhar Mahiruddin who is also the university's chancellor and his wife, Toh Puan Norlidah R.M. Jasni, for attending the event.

"I would also like to offer my highest gratitude to the Federal and State governments, former chancellors, UMS Board of Directors, Vice Chancellor, Registrar Office, all staff, sponsors and all the organising committee for their commitments in making tonight's event a success," he said.

The event also saw the official launching of the UMS Alumni Funds which currently has RM2.8 million in its coffers by the Head of State.

The funds, according to Harun earlier, will be used to strengthen the network between the university as well as its alumni.