



The signing ceremony between UMS and SAS.

UMS, SAS sign deal on autism initiative

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KOTA KINABALU: A Letter of Intent has been signed between Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and the Sabah Autism Association (SAS) to seek cooperation in charitable activities, particularly towards raising awareness about autism among the people of Sabah.

According to the Dean of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy Associate Professor Dr Raman Noordin, the initiative by the faculty's alumni and SAS is meaningful and timely.

"In line with the establishment of the Faculty's Alumni Association to provide channels for UMS graduates to return to the campus to contribute to society, the relationship built with SAS will enable them to contribute their energy, expertise and

funds, especially in supporting activities organised with SAS," he said.

The signing ceremony was done by Dr Raman Noordin representing UMS and SAS Chairwomen Jennifer Balanting.

Also announced at the event was the organising of the UMS Sunset Autism Run, a charity programme which will be held on Oct 27, at UMS' main campus.

Balanting said the run will feature other activities to promote awareness on autism in addition to food and beverages being sold by food truck operators, among others.

"I hope the collaboration between the faculty, UMS and SAS in organising the charity run is not only to raise public awareness about autism in Sabah but is a

starting point for educational institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organisations to come together and take serious consideration in helping these group.

"This is to ensure they are not excluded from the opportunity to enjoy normal life like others," she said.

SAS is a non-governmental organisation founded this year with close collaboration between its members and stakeholders in improving the quality of life of autistic individuals and family members through social programmes, services, resources, knowledge and innovation.

This in addition to promoting the rights and opportunities of these group.