

UMS collaborates with P.S Yap, Isma & Associates to provide accounting training

By MOHD IZHAM HASHIM

KOTA KINABALU: University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) inked a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with P.S Yap, Isma & Associates to provide industry training for students and lecturers in the field of accountancy.

Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Harun Abdullah said the signing paves the way forward for enhancing industry-academic cooperation between the two parties to allow wider opportunities for final-year accountancy students to get their on-the-job training in campus.

"This marks another step forward for UMS and P.S Yap, Isma & Associates in heightening joint cooperation to widen opportunities for university students to obtain quality academic training, enhance employability to fulfil industry standards," he said.

Speaking to the reporters yesterday, Harun said the partnership between UMS and the P.S Yap, Isma & Associates also resulted in the opening of the first on-campus accounting "Business Solutions@UMS" office in UMS which provides on-the-job training to accounting students.

"The accounting firm had also received and trained 48 UMS accountancy graduates who completed their training within the period of 2 to six months since the on-campus office was launched in 2015," Harun said, noting 10 UMS graduates are already employed and pursuing their careers with P.S Yap, Isma & Associates.

According to Harun, the experience gained at the on-campus office would allow students to immediately apply their skills in the industry with minimum supervision upon graduates, thus significantly increasing their employability.



Harun exchanging the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Yap (2nd right) after the signing at the UMS Chancellery Building.

"The on-campus office was jointly launched with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the university and the accountancy firm on May 19, 2015," he added.

The agreement was signed between Prof Dr Harun and Dato' Yap Pian Seen, Industry Associate of P.S Yap, Isma and Associates, and was witnessed by UMS Registrar No'Man HJ Ahmad and Prof Raman Noordin, the Dean of UMS Faculty of Business, Economics and

Accountancy, as well as UMS staff and delegates from the firm.

"This will also provide joint academic programmes, such as training, workshops, conferences and related activities for accounting students and teaching staff," said Harun.

Furthermore, he said the collaboration would also allow lecturers in the accountancy programme to join the firm for industrial attachment which fulfils the 12-month training period requirement set by the Malaysian In-

stitute of Accountancy (MIA).

P.S Yap, Isma & Associates is a reputable accounting firm under the Malaysian Accountancy Institute (MIA) based in Kuala Lumpur with branches in Kangar, Subang, Johor Bahru and Kota Kinabalu. First founded in 1992, the firm has at least 6,000 clients and provides professional accountancy consultation which includes auditing, taxation, corporate secretary, accountancy software and negotiations.