

Kamaruddin is made UMS VC

OE 15-6-2017

KOTA KINABALU: Kota Belud-born Prof Dr D Kamaruddin D Mudin has been made the new Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS).



The Higher Education Ministry made the announcement on social media, saying: "Congratulations Prof Dr D Kamaruddin D Mudin on his appointment as Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). Hopefully (you will be) soaring upwards!"

Kamaruddin, a professor at the university's School of Medicine, was previously a Deputy Vice-Chancellor (academic and international affairs) of UMS.

The announcement ended anxiety among Sabahans over whether a local would be the new Vice-Chancellor.

Many quarters, including the ruling coalition and opposition, said the appointment of a non-Sabahan would be a disrespect to the people of Sabah and

make it seem as if there was no local person qualified for the post.

The matter was brought to the state cabinet's attention, with Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman saying he had raised the issue with the federal minister concerned and voiced expectations that the next vice-chancellor should be from Sabah.

"I believe we have qualified people from here who can do the job," he said in a statement early this month.

D Kamaruddin, 49, will be replacing Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah whose tenure will end on June 17.

He will become the third Sabahan to hold the post after Harun and Prof Datuk Seri Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon.

D Kamaruddin was a Special Grade C Professor (Medicine) specialising in Anaesthesiology and had held the post of Dean for the Medicine and Health Science Faculty before being appointed as Deputy Vice Chancellor on April 2015.

He joined UMS in 2004 after serving the Ministry of Health in Queen Elizabeth Hospital for 12 years. He was also the first Sabah-born anaesthetist.