

UMS graduates to parade in Labuan

By Adrian Nandu

LABUAN: Universiti Malaysia Sabah-Labuan International Campus (UMS-KAL) will have its students parade on Oct 3, starting from the Labuan International Ferry Terminal to Dataran Labuan.

UMS-KAL director Associate Professor Dr Shariff Omang Al-Haj said the UMS Gown Graduates Parade was dubbed as the 'Town and Gown'. The annual event first started last year.

"It is organized in conjunction with the 12th UMS Convocation Day to be held on October 9-11 at the main campus in Kota Kinabalu.

"The parade, which starts at 8am, will be participated by UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Seri Kamaruzaman Hj Ampon, members of the UMS supreme council, UMS-KAL

lecturers and the soon-to-graduate students.

"The other participants are UMS-KAL uniformed units, Labuan Matriculation College students, students from the secondary and primary schools, pre-school pupils and police personnel from Kepayan, Sabah," he said at a press conference at Labuan Corporation yesterday.

Dr Shariff said the parade was a symbolic handover of the future graduates to society.

"I hope this parade will also motivate, especially the local students at schools to excel in their studies and to enter university themselves later.

"This parade is a unique event here in this island and could be made a tourism attraction which could boost the Labuan economy.

"During the day, the traffic at Merdeka Street from the ferry terminal to Dataran Labuan will be closed to road



Dr Shariff (second right), Dr Awang (second left) and Jahmurniwati after the press conference.

users for the parade," he said.

He said the event would be followed by the students' signature marking ceremony and the handing over of the students' letter of commission to the Labuan Corporation CEO, Datuk Basiran Saban.

The climax of the event would be the ceremony to

hand over keys to the students from Labuan Corporation as a symbol that they have been accepted by society.

Dr Shariff disclosed that 412 people would be involved in the parade where 600 UMS-KAL students from the Labuan Informatics Science School and the Labuan

International Campus Business School would graduate this year.

Last year, the same event was held by UMS-KAL but was shorter in distance, starting from the Labuan Corporation ground to Dataran Labuan.

Among the VIP guests invited that day are Labuan member of parliament

Datuk Yussof Mahal and the chairman of UMS University Board of Director, Tan Sri Hamid Egoh.

The Dean of the Labuan Informatics Science School, Dr Awang Asri Ibrahim and Labuan Corporation public relations officer Jahmurniwati Markum were also present at the press conference.