

VC's term is cut short at UMS

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KOTA KINABALU: Prof. Datuk Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin (pic) has confirmed that his tenure as UMS Vice-Chancellor has been cut short to July 29 by Education Minister Dr Maszlee Malik.



He revealed this during a Vice-Chancellor special ceremony with the University's Head of Responsibility Centre (PTJ).

However, he did not state the possible reason/s and how much longer he was supposed to serve.

Kamarudin said he has no choice but to announce the matter to prevent more negative rumours being spread.

"The matter needs to be explained to stop wild gossip by certain quarters with self-interest.

"I hope each staff will not be swayed by the changes and will continue to carry out their responsibility.

"On the decision to shorten my tenure, I accept the decision by Dr Maszlee and trust that the decision is made in a professional manner with the university's interest in mind," he said.

According to Kamarudin, changes in the management of a government organisation is a normal process in the new Malaysia and the university's management accepts the Ministry's decision.

"However all the plans I have to further strengthen UMS, including administra-

tion aspects are plans for three years (up to 2020).

"Although my service has been shortened, I hope the plans will be continued by the university's academicians and administrators.

"Changes such as reviewing curriculums has to be continued because we want to produce graduates who are equipped with the knowledge and skills to fulfil the current job market requirements," he said.

Kamarudin said he hoped the next Vice Chancellor would be better than him and have high integrity.

"I also hope the issue on the Vice Chancellor appointment will not be politicised by any quarters with personal agenda and to accept each and every decision by the Ministry.

"As staff of the university, we must be more professional especially in matters related to high administrative posts and not try to play with politics by supporting certain individuals for personal gain which will only end with disunity among those in the university. Such behaviour will also be a bad example or culture to university students," he said.

The event also saw Kamarudin launching the UMS 2019 - 2022 Risk Management Plan and present a star rating certificate to the University's PTJ Head for UMS governance rating.

Previously the VC post used to go to peninsula candidates and was seen as a political reward by the then ruling Umno.

However, following protests, Sabah-borns ended up filling the post.