

UMS engineering students to benefit from MoU

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By Fiqah Roslan

KOTA KINABALU: Engineering students of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) are set to benefit from a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the university and HSS Engineers Berhad.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) Professor Dr Shahril Yusof said the MoU was part of the university's nine Key Results Areas (KRA) under its 2018-2019 strategic plan, correctly aligned with the collaboration that is "contributing toward the development of State and nation."

He added that the MoU would enable students to gain industry experience in real life working settings to complement their studies.

"One of the collaborative efforts stated in the MoU includes the establishment of a teaching consultant office at the Faculty of Engineering. This is to involve students in real project design work, for example, under the supervision of HSS Engineers staff.

"This would surely add value to students' degree and increase employability in the future. HSS Engineers would also be part of teaching and learning through the 'Engineering Talk Series' programme.

"Not only does this benefit students, UMS faculty members also stand to gain from the MoU through staff attachment at HSS Engineers offices, to comply with requirements of being a professional engineer



A handshake between Shahril and Kunasingam to seal the deal upon signing the MoU between UMS and HSS Engineers yesterday.

which is crucial in the process of accreditation," said Shahril.

According to him, UMS has been complying with the Engineering Accreditation Council requirement of three professional engineers for each engineering programme, although the university continuously increases the number.

Shahril also hoped after completing a one-year attachment, the relationship with HSS Engineers would continue through research and consultation opportunities.

Meanwhile, HSS Engineers Berhad co-founder cum Executive Vice Chairman Tan Sri Ir. Kunasingam V Sittampalam

said the MoU signing paved the way for continued collaboration and cooperation between UMS and HSS Engineers, focusing on education and projects by leveraging on each other's key strengths, expertise and resources.

As the engineering world progresses, Kunasingam said it inevitable that universities continue to collaborate with industry partners to realise the value of education for its students.

"Without professional input, collaborative support and feedback, graduates may not gain the knowledge and competencies required to excel in their chosen

career path in the industry.

"As one of the eminent industry players, we are well equipped to provide hands-on knowledge on specific subjects in the form of lectures and seminars to the students and are also able to impart knowledge on relevant topics to assist UMS," he said.

Kunasingam added that this would expose students to practical knowledge and real world know-how, in addition to academic curriculum. He further said HSS Engineers looked forward to working with UMS with the common goal of developing a skilled talent pool to help drive economic growth and development in Sabah.