

UMS-Shell MoU benefits 50 students

By **Shalina R. Bp** | 2019

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Shell Petroleum Co Ltd (Shell) provided an opportunity for 50 Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) engineering students to participate in the module program of a company, Industry Immersion Module, as part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with UMS last year.

The partnership collaboratively establishes and develops academic exchange and cooperation in training.

The program, comprising 10 sessions over a period of 10 weeks between October and December last year, was conducted by Shell employees at Plaza Shell here.

The 10-week program consisted of simulation of real working environment. Students were given a case study with challenges that were aimed at enhancing the students' critical thinking, and problem-solving skills through teamwork.

According to Sabah Shell

5 general manager Prithipal Singh, human capital development has always been on top of the organization's strategy list.

"Through this program, we have given students a feel for what the oil and gas industry is about," he said at the Sabah Shell Industry Immersion Module Program closing ceremony at the university campus here yesterday.

"Under the guidance of Shell mentors, I hope the students have learned about problem-solving, creative-thinking and teamwork," he added.

The program also enabled the students to identify the critical success factors needed when delivering a major project for a multinational company.

These elements are believed to be essential skills that employers look for in today's working environment.

"I am happy to note that this type of collaboration between Sabah Shell Petroleum Company Limited and UMS is very much welcomed to close

the gap between the academia and the industry," said UMS (Academia and International) Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Rasid Mail.

The last leg of the Industry Immersion Module witnessed this group of students delivering their final presentations which consisted of relevant solutions that they came up with to address the challenges given in the study case.

Students presented their reasons for choosing these solutions, backed with strong reasoning and facts to a panel of Shell's senior management team.

Another part of the MoU consists of the appointment of Prithipal as the CEO@Faculty of UMS, propelling him to engage with UMS students through various speaking engagements and career talks, bringing in the industry perspective in the students' learning and help develop needed skills and capabilities in preparation for the working world.



Prithipal (seated, third right) and Rasid (seated, fourth right) with the UMS and Shell Sabah team, and participants at the Sabah Shell Industry Immersion Module Program closing ceremony yesterday.