## UMS to have a Confucius Institute

KOTA KINABALU: A Confucius Institute (CI) will be set up in Universiti Malaysia Sabah with collaboration of Hanban, the agency under the Ministry of Education China that oversees Confucius Institute.

Further discussion between UMS and Hanban on this matter was held on the sidelines of the 13th Confucius Institute Conference in Chengdu, China recently.

The Institute in UMS is scheduled to be officially launched in early 2019.

The Conference was attended by more than 2,000 international delegates, including representatives from institutions that have established the Confucius Institute. UMS delegation to this Conference was led by Chairman of the Board of Directors, Datuk K Y Mustafa.

This makes UMS the third higher learning institution in Malaysia to host the Institute, and among 510 Confucius Institutes in 127 countries worldwide.

In Malaysia, Confucius Institute have been established in University Malaya and Segi University. The running of the Institute is partly funded by Hanban and the primary roles are to contribute towards the teaching and learning of Mandarin, and facilitate cultural exchange with China.

UMS expressed appreciation and gratitude to various parties in Malaysia as well in China (including Changsa University of Science and Technology) for the cooperation, support and contribution towards the successful establishment of a Confucius Institute in UMS.

