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UMS backs decision to allow online teaching, learning

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UMS

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) supports the decision of the Higher Education Ministry to allow public and private universities to continue their Teaching and Learning (PdP) online, provided that all students have access while lecturers and infrastructure online learning are fully prepared.

UMS Vice Chancellor Datuk Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin said UMS has already installed the PdP infrastructure that enables it to continue without having face-to-face (F2F) meetings.

He said the infrastructure has been enhanced at UMS over the past few years, in line with UMS' desire to improve the access and quality of PdP delivery through blended learning.

“Currently, students and lecturers can have virtual lectures or tutorials using the Smart2UMS or Smartv3 platform, which is accessible at any time. Lecturers are also allowed to use other online learning platforms and tools such as Google Classroom, Schoology, Facebook, Edmodo, Kahoot, Padlet, WhatsApp and email.

“To date, all faculties at UMS have implemented online PdP on courses offered by their academic programmes under the integrated learning initiative. The use of the online PdP method under the Smart2UMS or Smartv3 platform has reached up to 73 per cent.

“We are confident that UMS students and lecturers are fully prepared to implement the PdP in full with the cancellation of the face-to-face lecture and tutorial session imposed under the current

Movement Control (CPP) Order,” he said in a statement, Monday.

Dr Taufiq said the UMS management believes that students and lecturers are ready to continue their studies through online methods.

“Implementing online PdP will benefit students as it enables them to continue their learning sessions from wherever they are without having to attend face-to-face lectures.

“The implementation of the online PdP also enables lecturers and students to resume their PdP sessions to meet the syllabus and curriculum requirements of their respective courses, while at the same time helping to reduce the impact of the Movement Control Order (CPP) on the smooth running of academic studies,” he said.