Visit UMS Year to woo in more tourists

By MARRYAN RAZAN

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah, UMS, will launch the Visit UMS Year 2016/2017 next month in an effort to attract more tourists to visit the university.

UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Haron Abdullah said the university had launched the eco-tourism concept in 2014 and Malaysia 101 Edutourism Packages on August 15, 2015.

"UMS will launch the EcoCampus Visitor Information Centre (EVIC) together with ecotourism packages next month," he said in a message to UMS staff yesterday.

Mohd Harun said EVIC centre would provide tourists with information on UMS attractions and tour packages.

"Among the key components of the centre are a gallery and tourist information centre, centralised ticket counter and package tours as well as a gift shop.

"An eco-cafe will be provided for the convenience of visitors and the EVIC will also be expanded in future," he added.

Mohd Harun said five tour packages based on green and nature tourism were being offered, namely Gallery & Museum Tour, Nature Delight Tour, Architecture Heritage Tour, Sunset Tour and Nature Education Camp with affordable charges.

He said a buggy car that uses electric energy would also be made available for tourists to enjoy the panoramic views of the surrounding campus, while helping to reduce the carbon footprint.

Mohd Harun said UMS with the coordination of its EcoCampus Management Centre was in the process of building a recycling centre through a corporate social responsibility project by Binapuri Sdn Bhd with RM1,000,000 in funding.

He said the project was expected to be operational in August 2016 at the Faculty of Engineering.

"The main component of the recycling centre was to manage waste such as paper, plastic bottles and cans produced in UMS," he added.