Si Noriahah Yaw, UMS in collaboration with a private company managing Forest Management Unit (FMU) managed under the principles of Sustainable Forest Management. As it is also different from previous Forestry Camps with the development of new tailor-made Mentoring Programmes modules which was introduced as a session of sharing of live experience and knowledge on the Sustainable Forest Management implementation at the FMU level, from the experienced mentors among the KTSP and the Sabah Forest Department personnel, and UMS lecturers. This Mentoring Programme, which involved the participation of Mentors from official and technical staff of the Sabah Forest Department and KTSP Plantation is one of the best examples of synergistic partnership for learning among the different organisations.

This is one of the events that we were really looking forward to every year. To have the event conducted in the real environment and also witnesses the actual operation carried out is a rare experience for young foresters.

One of the highlights was the actual operation of Reduce Impact Logging during the mentoring programme. He added that the second year KTSP Plantation 5th Bhd has turned up with Sabah Forestry Department and University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) to enhance the practical learning experience of Forestry students from the university through the 17th Forestry Camp which was organised in Segalai Lokan Forest Reserve.

Philosophically as one of the most essential syllabuses in the development of future foresters, the Forestry Camp is a compulsory subject for the second year students majoring in the forestry programme comprising International Forestry, Forest Plantation and Agroforestry, Nature Parks and Recreation and the Wood Technology and Industry.

This subject emphasizes the theory and practical practices in forestry studies and management. Among the modules covered were Forest Survival, Motivation, Survey on forest resources and timber forest, Forest Soils, Forest Community, Wildlife Management, Forest Inventory, Botany, Entomology, Forest Management and Silviculture.

The students also learned communication and leadership skills through presentations and group assignments during the camp. The activities developed involved 'direct' physical and mental endurance in the forest that are necessary for those training to be a forester. The expectations are, upon completion of the modules, students can apply their basic forestry knowledge and skills and physical endurance in the forest that are necessary for training to be a forester.

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