KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) can be on par with other public higher learning institutes (IPTAs), said its new vice chancellor, Professor Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah.

Speaking in his mandate following his recent appointment, Dr Mohd Harun said the aim is to increase its income generation and to meet with the challenges that are presented to them for the good and excellence of the university.

Dr Mohd Harun outlined six aspects that would be focused on during his tenure as vice chancellor.

The six issues that would be focussed on would be to inculcate the love for knowledge, to strengthen the university’s human resource, team work, to work independently, to add quality to their work and to improve the quality and excellence of the organisation, he said.

He urged the UMS community to come out of their comfort zone and to meet with the challenges that are presented to them for the good and excellence of the university.

Dr Mohd Harun said that researchers, who are capable of thinking creatively and to implement their jobs with honesty and earnestness, to put the needs of the organisation first before their own personal needs, can work with tourism players to help place the tourism in Sabah.

He also urged the UMS community to be ethical in carrying out their work.

As for his focus to strengthen the university’s human resource, he urged the UMS community to undergo mind transformation.

He also urged those knowledgeable at UMS to use their knowledge for good and not for agendas that are wrong in the sight of God.

As for his focus to strengthen the university’s human resource, he urged the UMS community to undergo mind transformation.

“I believe the UMS workers are its biggest assets. They are capable of thinking creatively and to implement their jobs with honesty and earnestness, to put the needs of the organisation first before their own personal needs, to speed up the processing of their work, to work independently, to add quality to their work and to improve the quality and excellence of the organisation,” he said.

The fourth vice chancellor of UMS also called for the creation of a conducive working environment that would generate excellence for the university.

“The challenge for UMS is to create thinkers who are capable of shaking the world,” he said.

At the same time, he also urged the UMS community to be ethical in carrying out their work.

“Being honest and sincere are qualities that must be inculcated within all of us. Integrity is not a regulation that is forced. It begins within the core of every human being. We don’t want to create individuals who are good at acting and who only pretend to be good when they are in front of their bosses but act differently when the bosses go away,” he said.

Dr Mohd Harun also urged the UMS community to be professional, dynamic, helpful and progressive.

“We are not professionals if we keep on harping on the mistakes made by others in order to make ourselves look good. Only the weak look for others’ weaknesses for their own benefit,” he said.

He said that instead, the UMS community should strive to help ease the work of others.

“If you help light up the candles belonging to others, it will not extinguish our own lights,” he said.

In his mandate, he also urged academicians to study the relevancy of courses that are offered by the university.

He added that researchers, who are capable of thinking creatively and to implement their jobs with honesty and earnestness, to put the needs of the organisation first before their own personal needs, can work with tourism players to help place the tourism in Sabah.

He also urged them to identify researches that have the potential to be developed commercially such as marine products, as well as those in the creative industry.

The vice chancellor also said that he aimed to turn the university into an eco-campus that would benefit the eco-tourism in Sabah.

“We can work with tourism players to help place UMS on the tourism map,” he said.

By Jenne Lajun
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