Students need to be competitive

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KOTA KINABALU: Stu-
dents who excel in aca-
demics should also do well
in the human aspects.

Universiti Malaysia
Sabah (UMS) vice-chan-
cellor Professor Datuk Dr
Harun Abdullah said that
fierce competition in to-
day's working world de-
mands all students to be
holistically competitive,
adding that the university
is responsible to provide
first-class human capital
to meet the demands of
labour market.

"Cooperation between
all parties in the university
is important in efforts to
educate and encourage
students," said Dr Harun
in his speech during the
Student & Alumni Affairs
Appreciation Night (MA-
HEPA) at 1Borneo Grand
Ballroom here on Friday.

He added that the gov-
ernment's noble efforts in
helping students need to
be appreciated and the as-
sistance such as SIM cards
and book vouchers should
be used wisely.

In his speech, Dr Harun
also reminded students not
to leave behind the aca-
demic aspects even though
they might be busy with
curriculum activities.

Meanwhile, he said the
university has to prioritise
students' needs such as the
provision of 3,486 new set
of furniture for residential
college on the main cam-
pus and as well as at UMS
KAL in Labuan.

In this regard, Dr Harun
also hoped that students
will continue to be the core
of the development agen-
da of the country and also
be a driving agent to foster
Eco Campus culture on
Campus.

On another note, deputy
vice-chancellor (student
affairs & alumni) Asso-
ciate Professor Dr Haji
Kasim Haji Md Mansur
said UMS is a house of
knowledge not only in
producing intellectuals
but also a platform for
students to enhance their
capabilities and achieve-
ments through various stu-
dent activities.

"There are a variety of
student achievements dur-
ing the year 2012 such as
the 'UMS Students in Free
Enterprise' (SIFE UMS)
programme or 'Enactus'
where members involved
were selected to represent
Malaysia at the world cup
competition in Washing-
ton DC after coming out
champs at the nation-
level in September last
year," said Dr Kasim.

Also, the "Simply Green" and "Sempurlsana" from the School of Forestry & International Tropical (SPTA) repre-
ented the zones of Sabah
and Sarawak at the na-
tional competition of My-
novasi 2012.

Additionally, Dr Kasim
said that successes of stu-
dents in areas such as in-
novation, literature, cul-
ture, sports, community
and volunteering not only
reflected their keen sense
of competitiveness but al-
so their commitment.

MAHEPA is an event
held annually by the De-
partment of Student Af-
airs & Alumni (JHEP)
UMS and aims to give
recognition to students,
staff and external agencies
for the contribution and
commitment to JHEP.