Global journal listing a must for UMS doctorate students

Jason Santos
KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) will make it a must for doctorate students to have their research published in high-impact journals to graduate, in what may be part of its plan to achieve global standing.

The move came after UMS' Board Chairman Tun Zaki Tun Azmi threw several challenges to the university to gain a "respectful position", saying "I do not see the name UMS listed (in a global list)."

In a board meeting recently, he laid out two goals for the UMS academic and administration divisions to achieve.

"One of the targets I have brought about for the academic staff is for them to write at least one journal to be published in a high-impact publication.

"And for the administration, cleanliness and migration to online services," he said when met after making his "Ceramah Perdana", here, Thursday.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Datuk Dr Harun Abdullah has announced one of the new doctorate graduating requirements, adding that the same goal will go to all 300 UMS academic manpower.

"This will ensure the number of publications from UMS will be increased, and (for the doctorate candidate) gain the recognition they truly deserve," he said.

Dr Harun also said UMS is also in the process of recruiting several renowned professors and new collaborations this year to attain the academic goal.

On the administration aspects, Chief Registrar Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said said they had approved a succession plan to ensure staff promotions meet all the criteria of vacant positions.

"We also have a system called MyContinuous Professional Development (MyCPD) to ensure all staff continually get grading on their present positions before they can apply for promotions.

"They will be graded in points," said Abdullah Mohd, saying it will be easier for the selection committee to decide on any new promotions of staff.

Meanwhile, Zaki had earlier suggested that the UMS Integrity Day programme be extended for the whole year, instead of it being done for just one month.

"Integrity is a way of life," he said.