



UMPTO MANAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SMART PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATION PROGRAMME

The collaboration between JKPP, UMP and industry, who are strategic partners in this group effort, will develop the networking when executing employability programmes under the ministry



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) became the first university appointed by Higher Education Ministry's Department of Community College Studies (JPKK) to manage a smart partnership programme involving community colleges and automotive companies in a move to produce skilled workers who would contribute to the development of the country's economy in automotive.

The programme, placed under the Centre of Continuing Education and Professional Development (CENFED), will involve students trained by UMP based on the needs of the industry and eventually, employed as skilled and knowledgeable workers

(k-Workers).

The collaboration between JKPP, UMP and industry, who are strategic partners in this group effort, will develop the networking when executing employability programmes under the ministry.

The ministry's secretary general Datuk Ab Rahim Md Noor said such partnership was important to reinforce the role of community college as a leader in generating a knowledgeable and skilled society who also connected with the Government.

"The programme will reinforce the role of community college as the catalyst in producing skilled, knowledgeable and decent workers who meet the industry's demands," he said during a ceremony held at Equatorial Hotel in Bangi on August 1, 2012.

The ceremony involved the exchange of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs), handing over of employment offer letters and breaking of fast with representatives

of related industries.

Datuk Ab Rahim said various initiatives were also carried out including introducing modular-type courses that were conducted in a shorter duration.

He added that in enriching the contributions by college community to the local people, its role must be strengthened by having knowledge transfer programmes put in place in the colleges and public institutes of higher learning.

The programme could be entrepreneurial, aquaculture or design activities, or other equally enterprising ones, he said.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said as a technical university, UMP should assist the Government in mainstreaming and extending technical education.

He added that the synergy existed between UMP and JKPP could transform unskilled workers to semi-skilled or skilled workforce, in a very competitive manner.

This strategic initiative could also allow TEVT graduates to pursue their studies in UMP, he said.

"It will benefit more than 400 college community students that are taking marketability programmes.

"College community graduates (Directly Employed) will go through three initiatives - Automotive Junior Technician Programme, Skill Professional Enrichment Development Programme (SPEDP) and UMP Youth Certified Technician Programme (Vehicle - Mechanical and Electrical Technical) Phase One and Two," he said.

He noted that the graduates had been offered to work in various automotive industries including vehicle distribution companies such as Toyota, Mazda, Suzuki, Chevrolet, Mitsubishi, Perodua, Hyundai and Honda.

On the exchange of MoUs, it involved UMP and 24 international accreditation agencies and companies dealing in food and services, spa and beauty, photography, information technology, tourism and hospitality.

Ten Automotive Scan Tools were also presented to JKPP to be used in selected community colleges.