

ACADEMIC COOPERATION

Tie-up with German varsities boosts UMP grads' employability

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KUANTAN: Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) has succeeded in producing 95 per cent of employable graduates this year.

UMP Vice-Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the achievement was meaningful in light of the university's upcoming 15th anniversary on Thursday.

"The internationalisation of UMP was achieved through a network of firm academic cooperation with Germany to enable us to produce competitive graduates with 'glo-cal' (global and local) qualities.

"It is a model academic cooperation for the dual degree in mechanical engineering and automotive engineering with Germany's Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences (HsKA) and dual degree in Business Engineering with Germany's Reutlingen University.

"With this background in German education, graduates are readily offered jobs by companies which have business relations with Germany."

He said the setting up of the CEO@Faculty Programme at the university had also increased participation by industry leaders in the relevant sectors where they shared their experience and expertise with the students.

Daing Nasir said among the programmes that could be carried was inviting CEOs to give lectures and teach.

He said UMP had introduced the integrated cumulative grade point average (ICGPA) system to evaluate graduates in their academic achievements, as well as other professional skills such as entrepreneurship, management and communications.

He said UMP's Student Profile System was capable of fulfilling the needs of modern industry,

which required graduates to not only have sound academic intelligence but also be accomplished in soft skills and interpersonal communications.

"The Industry Centre of Excellence (I-COE) is a mechanism that links study with occupation, where industries cooperate with education providers to ensure students are equipped with suitable skills via four main programmes — Structured Internship Programme, Industrial Placement, Talent Development and Training of Trainers."

Daing Nasir said UMP also introduced the MyGift Programme to eligible students through sponsorship and allocation of college residences.

"UMP is sensitive to the needs of potential students from needy families and offers scholarships to new students to enable them to enrol in diploma and degree programmes for the 2017/2018 academic session this year.

"A *Mawaddah* residential college (student quarters) will be built to house 220 students from *asnaf* families (charity beneficiaries) and orphans in UMP Pekan, as a result of cooperation between UMP and Majlis Ugama dan Adat Resam Melayu Pahang."

Daing Nasir said he would share details on the university's success at his yearly vice-chancellor mandate titled "Memasyarakat Teknologi, Agenda Keterampilan UMP" at Dewan Kompleks Sukan UMP on Thursday.

It will be attended by more than 5,000 UMP campus residents.

In order to become a competitive global player, UMP was dedicated to being innovative through its academic programmes via strategic networking on the international stage, he said.



Datuk Dr Daing Nasir Ibrahim