UNIMAS ORGANISES FAIR TO HELP GRADUATE TO COMMUNICATE WITH FUTURE EMPLOYERS

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These graduates are among some 3,919 students graduating from Unimas this year.

KUCHING: The Sector Focused Career Fair - Universiti Malaysia Sarawak Innovation Career and Education Fair (SFCF Unimas ICE) 2016 held on May 11 to 12 has helped to reach out to more graduates on future career development.

The second SFCF on campus, organised by Unimas Centre of Student Development and Talent Corp Malaysia Bhd, was a platform for the students and graduates of Unimas and other higher learning institutions to find career and training opportunities in specific sector such as oil, gas and energy, engineering, creative multimedia and global business services.

SFCF Unimas ICE has attracted over 7,000 visitors last year and this year, they are expecting more to attend the fair.

Unimas vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohamad Kadim Suaidi said it was a significant event for Unimas as they produced over 4,000 graduates every year from all disciplines.

"This event allows much closer engagement between students and industries as they are able to communicate up close with the industries representatives. Graduates can find jobs through the direct involvement of industry on campus," he said during a press conference at Unimas.

He said Unimas placed importance on graduate employability as they wanted graduates to be employed.

"We are grateful to TalentCorp and the 60 to 70 exhibitors from the industry who are willing to work with us. They can also check with the companies on what are the opportunities available or

do an informal interview. The outcome will help us in increasing our graduate employability," said Kadim.



(From left) Centre of Student Development dean Prof Dr Siti Raudzah Ghazali, Kadim, TalentCorp-graduate employability head Siti Norliza Mohd Sahar and State Labour Department director Datuk August Buma at the press conference.

Among the participating companies present at the fair were Aegis Business Process Outsourcing, Iskandar Regional Development Authority, Gamuda, Astro, Axiata Group, Ernst and Young, Continental Automotive, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, Popular Book Co and Tokuyama.

The SFCF hopes to increase career awareness and understanding of Malaysia's key economic sectors by enabling graduates to meet corporate leaders and human resource representatives of the companies. The companies can also scout for local talents from different universities.

"One of the objective of student development in the university is holistic student development. We have established the industry and community engagement on campus. This is as interface with the industry.

"I hope the industry here today can talk to us on the possibility of working together in other areas other than student recruitment. We can do commercialisation of research products done by Unimas innovation, interfacing with industry," he said.

The first ICE fair was held in 2014, after which SFCF Unimas ICE was developed the following year. The fair aims to expose graduates on what are viable for their field and the kinds of industries that cater for their specific course and interest.

Besides organizing SFCF, TalentCorp has been actively involved with UNIMAS in other fronts such as industry engagement zone, internship placements and other graduate employability initiatives.

The opening of SFCF Unimas ICE was launched by Unimas chairman Datuk Dr Hatta Solhi. Also present during the opening of are Sarawak Labour Department director Datuk August Buma and head of TalentCorp-graduate employability Siti Norliza Mohd Sahar.