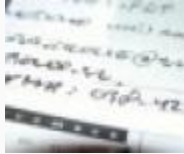


**on 21 May 2014**

'Give patients the attention they deserve'



KUCHING: Nursing is not just about skills training and knowledge but humanised service to patients.

Welfare, Women and Family Development Minister Datuk Fatimah Abdullah said nurses nowadays should take into consideration the human factor when taking care of patients to give them the attention they deserve.

"For me, training in the nursing field is not restricted to training or knowledge but also humanity which includes our attitude towards patients – that I believe has improved vastly."

She said this at a press conference after receiving a courtesy call from Malaysia Higher Learning Institute Board of Nursing at her office yesterday.

The delegation, led by Assoc Prof Dr Zabidah Putit, head of Nursing Department from Faculty of Medicine and Science in University Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas), invited Fatimah as guest-of-honour to launch the Nursing Board Malaysia International Conference 2014 from May 22 to 25. Zabidah revealed at the press conference that Unimas would host the conference in collaboration with other higher learning institutes: Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Malaya and Universiti Putra Malaysia.

"So far, a total 430 participants have registered and confirmed attendance including those from Australia, Europe, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines and Thailand.

The conference themed 'Transforming Nursing' will discuss issues related to nursing like the challenges, latest technology, research and skills.

On the gender issue, she said the profession was still dominated by the woman but there was an increasing trend of man becoming nurses.

She revealed that from 2010 until the present, Unimas enrolled 22 males doing nursing.

"Out of 180 enrolled, 22 were males," she elaborated.

Many applications were received but several aspects including qualifications had to be considered.

On job opportunity, Zabidah said Malaysia had a nurse to population ratio of 1:400 compared to 1:200 set by the World Health Organisation.

"For Unimas students, 99.9 per cent of them are employed with some of them even working overseas like in the United Kingdom, Europe and others," she revealed.

Source: The Borneo Post