

Tajuk : UNIMAS to focus on quality

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KOTA SAMARAHAN: University Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) yesterday lined up its strategic plan for 2012 to aggressively improve the quality of the university in a holistic approach.

Unimas vice chancellor Datuk Prof Dr Khairuddin Abdul Hamid yesterday stressed the university's goals over the next three years to enhance graduate employability and producing a high income generation.

"In line with the rapid social and technological development, Unimas aspires to foster graduates with the quest to pursue quality life-long learning and continuously improve knowledge, skills and abilities.

"If possible I want people to be able to feel the aura of quality as soon as they walk in the front gate of Unimas. I want it to be at that level," he said during the university's yearly assembly in front of 1,500 Unimas staff.

"We are also committed to democratise education by making it available to the masses," Khairuddin added.

He added the new strategy aims

to equip graduates with a wide range of theoretical and practical knowledge.

"Produce holistically developed graduates with a keen sense of leadership and professional skills. Provide graduates with high sensitivity to national and international social, moral, ethics and environmental values," he said.

He also revealed that one of the main challenges faced by the university is the low number of student enrolment.

"Last year, Unimas recorded the enrolment of 10,927 graduates, which is quite low compared to other national universities with some recording about 31,000 last year," he stated.

Khairuddin said to counter the problem, the university is coming out with 20 new programmes by 2015 and also re-evaluate student intake requirements to Unimas.

"The good news is that last year we registered about 4,000 new students and international students rose from 91 in 2010 to 169 in 2011," he said.

The event also saw presentation of scorecard to faculties.