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Tajuk : Unimas To Embed Soft Skills In Students.

# Unimas to embed soft skills in students

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**KUCHING:** Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) will provide more activities as an approach to embed a balance of soft skills and academics in its students.

Its Deputy Vice Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni) Professor Mohd Fadzil Abdul Rahman said every student must at least have hands-on experience or soft skills before they could enter the working world.

"Education is very important, but students must also prepare themselves once they graduate from the university," he said.

He said there would always be comparison between the importance of having education and the importance of having soft skills, both of which were actually important, but it all depends on the individuals.

"There will always be complaints about universities not producing excellent students, but people must not blame universities which are doing their best to guide and teach their students," pointed out Fadzil.

He said it would be up to the students whether they were willing to learn and improve them-

selves in terms of education, language and attitude and in their job later, and universities should not be blamed if they were weak in all these aspects.

Fadzil revealed that Unimas' initial target of recruitment by 2015 was 15,000 students, but its student intake this year surpassed that target with 16,000 students.

"This definitely shows a state of variation in the campus as we will be able to see the multiplicity of human behaviours, requirements and expectations," he said when officiating at the "UNIMASKu Sayang Programme" at the university here, yesterday.

The programme, organised by Unimas' Centre for Student Development (PPP) in collaboration with the Student Representative Council (MPP) for the students and the community, is based on the concept of the University Community Engagement (UCE) to mould the students into Malaysian citizens who are responsible, patriotic and caring.

The programme will be held for the duration of the 2013/2014 semester during which 3,000 students and 5,000 members of the



PROF Mohd Fadzil (second left) and Assoc Prof Dean Rusli Ahmad (left) officiating at the 'UNIMASKu Sayang Programme' at Unimas, yesterday.

community are expected to take part in 110 activities.

Activities organised are not only to inculcate the spirit of patriotism among the students and the community, but also to train them in soft skills.

It is hoped that the pro-

grammes will help to promote the culture of community service, volunteerism, social entrepreneurship as well as strengthening the identity aspect of student life in the community.

The programme is also expected to contribute towards national

transformation plan and creation of Malaysian citizens who will help the nation to achieve Vision 2020.

The ultimate goal of Unimas is to produce graduates who not only will excel academically, but also possess soft skills.