

Tajuk : UNIMAS wants to discourage students from negative politics

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KUCHING: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) is trying its level best to discourage its students from being overly involved in politics.

Its deputy vice-chancellor of student affairs and alumni Prof Mohd Fadzil Abdul Rahman said if possible, the university wanted the students to be free from all negative political ideologies.

He opined that instead of being too carried away by politics, the students should give priority to even bigger things in life such as their studies.

Mohd Fadzil stated that there was no reason for students to be involved in politics because their welfare in the university was well taken care of by the government.

"I always tell my students not to worry about their welfare and if

there is anything wrong with the university such as the government not giving enough assistance to the university, I'll be the first one to fight for them," he said.

He said besides the assistance provided, the students' tuition fees were heavily subsidised by the government.

"The amount students have to pay each semester is supposed to be RM12,000 but the students are only paying about RM1,000. That means the government is subsidising the rest of the tuition fees so I don't see why the students should rebel because of political ideologies," Mohd Fadzil stated.

He said that majority of the issues raised by students were petty and they became big because they were often being politicised by certain parties.

"I feel that maybe our students are too complacent with no other issues to fight for so they chose to champion political issues," he added.

Mohd Fadzil stated that although the university had tried its best to train its students not to be easily influenced by political ideologies, there were still certain parties who influenced them, making the university not conducive for studies.

He stated while the university was aware that though there were students involved in politics, their involvement was still not obvious.

Mohd Fadzil stated that as university students, the students should open up their minds and listen to other political ideologies instead of being confined to a certain ideology.