

Tajuk : Unimas helps increase tourist arrivals

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**KUCHING:** With its high reputation in tertiary education and research, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) has contributed to the increase in tourist arrivals in the state.

Assistant Minister of Tourism Datuk Haji Talib Zulpilip said researchers continue to visit Sarawak for research, seminars, courses and consultation purposes, especially on research conducted by Unimas.

"As the first public institution in Sarawak, Unimas has become the 'university of choice' for both local and Peninsular Malaysia students," he said when speaking at the 'Unimas-meet-the-community' session held at the Sarawak Tourism Complex here yesterday.

Talib also pointed out that the existence of Unimas had directly become the main attraction for tourists and visitors, especially from the domestic tourism aspect.

He said that 60 per cent of Unimas students came from outside Sarawak, mostly from Peninsular Malaysia, and this, coupled with the existence of high quality academic programmes

offered, had become the benchmark for the university to become university of choice for students from outside Sarawak.

"The presence of non-Sarawakian students studying at Unimas should be seen as an opportunity for the locals, especially Kota Samarahan folk, to enhance their economic well-being," he added.

In this respect, Talib called on the people in the vicinity to provide the best services and products to the students and visitors of Unimas.

In the event yesterday, many interesting activities were held for public, namely blood donation drive, health screening, The UNIMAS Trail exhibition, short film show, Kid's Corner, fashion show open to visitors, and dances and entertainment by Unimas Cultural Group (BAYU).

The event was aimed at fostering closer relationship among the community as well as promoting the university to foreign visitors.

Also present at the event were Unimas Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs and Alumni) Professor, Mohd Fadzil Abdul Rahman and Kuching Division Resident Abdul Rahman Sebli Senusi.



**DATUK** Haji Talib Zulpilip (left) looking at the plans of Unimas campus during his visit to 'UNIMAS Showcase' when officiating at the 'Unimas-meet-the-community' session. Seen at second right is Abdul Rahman Sebli Senusi.

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