



Prepare for job market, Unimas students told

by Elizabeth Serai James

KOTA SAMARAHAN – Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) has urged its new undergraduates to make full use of the facilities on the campus to prepare themselves for the competitive job environment.

Unimas Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Yusuf Hadi gave the advice during the oath-taking ceremony for Unimas' new students at Dewan Unimas in Kota Samarahan yesterday.

"In Unimas, we provide facilities such as the library, science, engineering and computer laboratories and so forth to facilitate the students in their learning process," he said, adding that excellence in co-curriculum and sports were also important apart from academic excellence.

"New students should acquire the necessary soft skills and develop positive values and attitudes," added Dr Yusuf.

He stressed that the Unimas administration was providing the highest quality of academic staff, courses as well as teaching-learning facilities possible.

Dr Yusuf added that the quality of Unimas courses was assured by having all lecturers submit their teaching portfolios to the dean's office.

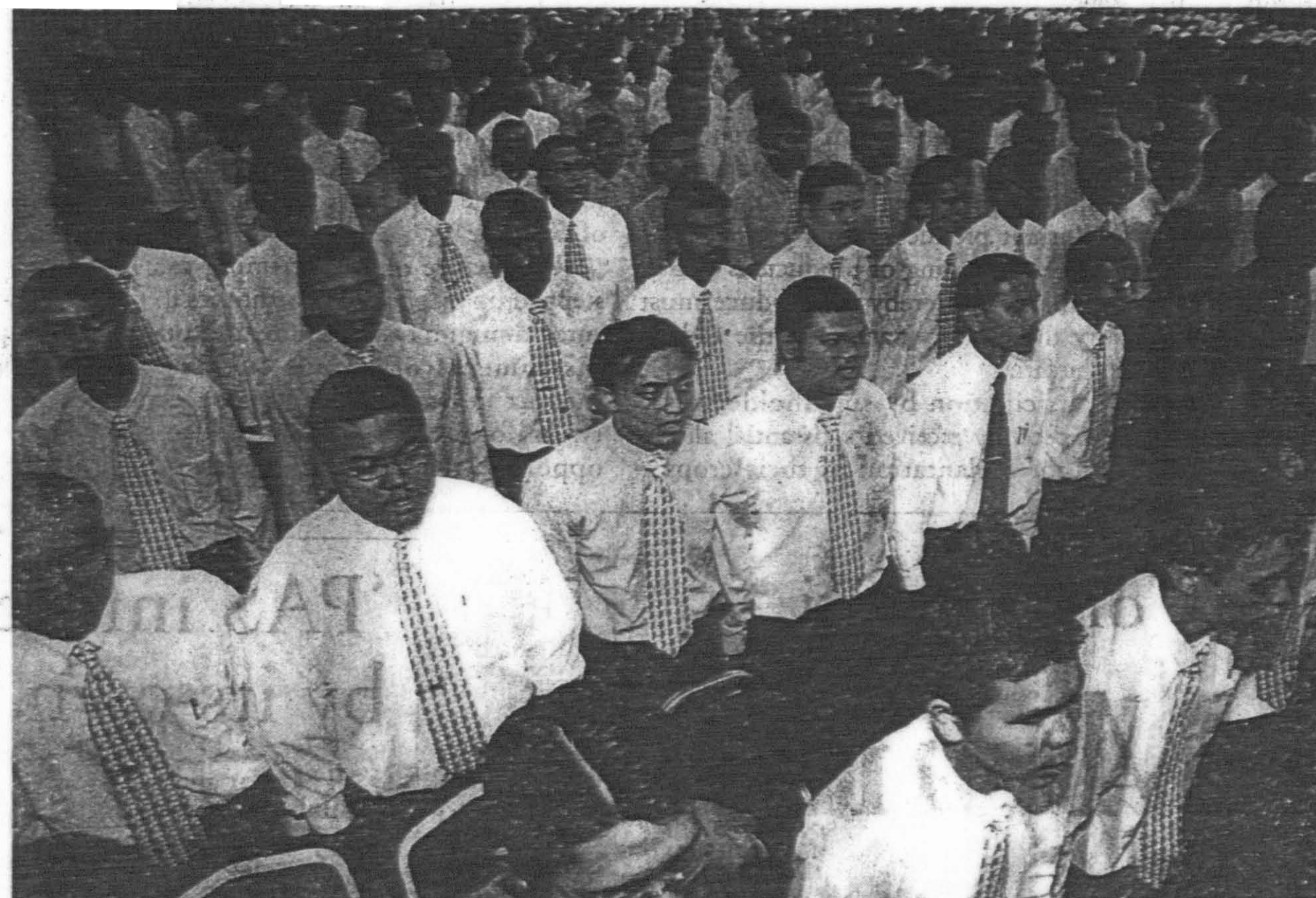
"More lecturers are putting their course materials online for students to access as part of Unimas' e-learning initiative.

"Even examination questions are vetted by the faculty administration to ensure their quality, reliability and fairness," he said.

Dr Yusuf pointed out that Unimas lecturers were required to attend a Diploma programme in teaching and learning to make them more efficient as instructors and facilitators of learning.

"Serving lecturers are strongly encouraged to enrol in the programme to enhance their teaching capability," he said.

Earlier, Chairman of Unimas' Board of Directors Tan Sri Datuk Amar Haji Bujang Mohd Nor advised the students to equip themselves with as much knowledge as possible so that they could compete



PLEDGE OF DISCIPLINE ... New students of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) taking their oath at Dewan Unimas yesterday. PHOTOGRAPH: AWANG KUSHAIRY JUNAIDI

for jobs within or outside the country.

"We hope that the students can think and act globally," he said, stressing that information, communication and technology (ICT) and the English language should be given priority as they were the prerequisites to gaining competitive edge in the borderless world.

Bujang also advised the students to join any organisations on the campus so that they could develop their leadership and communication skills.

A total of 1,417 first-year students registered this year in Unimas and are spread over the eight faculties.

Registration for the new students was held from 30 May to 3 June. Orientation activities started on 4 June and culminated in the oath-taking ceremony yesterday.

The new students pledged to abide by the rules and regulations of the university, make full use of facilities and uphold the university's image and reputation.

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