

04 MAR 1998

SIX TOP US ACADEMICIANS TO VISIT M'SIA

KUALA LUMPUR, March 4 (Bernama) -- Six United States top academicians from the University of Pennsylvania will be in Malaysia beginning March 7 on a week-long fact-finding visit.

The visit by the university's Wharton faculty members has an objective to source first-hand information basically about the Malaysian economy, history, culture, politics and religion as well as to pursue their specific interests and provide answers to specific individual research questions on Malaysia.

During the visit, the six professors are also scheduled to call on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as well as a lunch meeting with Pulau Pinang Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), the organiser of the trip, in a statement said today the professors would bring with them varied areas of specialisation and research interest including equity markets, pricing of capital assets, public and private insurance, risk management and public finance.

During the visit, the Wharton faculty members will meet with high-ranked government officials and business leaders in their individual capacity for discussions and deeper understanding of their various research interests in the Malaysian context, ASLI said.

The list include Economic Planning Unit (EPU)'s director general Tan Sri Ali Abul Hassan Sulaiman, Malaysian Exchange of Securities Dealing and Automated Quotation (Mesdaq)'s executive chairman Khairil Annuar, Petronas's chief executive officer Tan Sri Hassan Marican, Bank Negara's deputy governor Datuk Fong Weng Phak and Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange's executive chairman Mohd Azlan Hashim.

Other individuals include Securities Commission (SC)'s chairman Dr Mohd Munir Majid, Arab-Malaysian Merchant Bank Bhd's chairman Tan Sri Azman Hashim and Ministry Of international Trade and Industry Secretary-General Tan Sri Asmat Kamaluddin.

ASLI chief executive officer/director Datuk Michael Yeoh said such visits were important and would add much value to the promotion and better understanding of Malaysia in the United States, adding that this was part of ASLI's on-going programme to promote Malaysia and showcase the country's achievements.

The Wharton School, America's first collegiate business school founded in 1881, is recognised around the world for its innovative leadership and broad academic strengths across every major discipline at every level of management education.

ASLI is an independent not-for-profit organisation that promotes leadership, strategic thinking and bilaterla business partnerships. --

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