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`Students in UM have not caught election fever'

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - The majority of Universiti Malaya students have not caught the "election fever" spread by opposition parties, said UM vice-chancellor Tan Sri Dr Abdullah Sanusi Ahmad today.

While student organisations were given the freedom to hold events, he said they were still bound by the Universities and University Colleges Act that prohibited them from being involved in politics.

Recently, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad expressed regret that many students had been brainwashed by opposition parties to hold demonstrations against the Government at the expense of their academic excellence.

"The problem lies in the topic of debates these students choose to deal with when they organise events on campus," Abdullah Sanusi said after presenting a contribution for the Tabung Barisan Bertindak Kosovo at the UM Dentistry Faculty.

"It's hard for me to say if there are outside influences that led to this," he said, adding that university rules required all organised debates to be balanced in the attendance of relevant parties.

He said the UM top management would be meeting the student association next week to discuss the issue and to find out questions students might have regarding current issues.

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