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Undergrads-Body

STUDENTS FROM LOCAL AND BRITISH VARIETIES FORM NEW BODY

PETALING JAYA, July 12 (Bernama) -- Undergraduates from Malaysia and British universities have teamed up to set up Malaysia Connect United Kingdom 2000, a student organisation to foster productive ties between Malaysian students studying locally and abroad.

Formed last January, MCUK 2000 aims to cultivate a more well-informed generation of students capable of facing the challenges presented by the new k-economy.

"The idea to form MCUK 2000 was mooted after a dialogue session between Malaysian students studying in United Kingdom and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad early this year," MCUK 2000 chairman Lee Chung Han told a news conference at the Cancerlink Foundation here.

The first year student at the London School of Economics said the organisation would act as an important platform for students to pro-actively gain more exposure, awareness, education and understanding of current global trends and events beyond the confines of the conventional academia environment.

"MCUK 2000 was set up to enable our students, as a group, to pursue opportunities to enrich ourselves intellectually and socially through participation in meaningful and beneficial activities. As such we aim to promote a generation of socially-responsible students, who can act locally and think globally," Lee said.

In line with its objectives, MCUK 2000 will hold two inaugural events -- The Summer Charity Ball and Malaysia Beyond 2000 E-Revolution Conference in August.

The Summer Charity Ball is held to raise funds for Cancerlink Foundation, a non-governmental organisation that provides emotional, practical and information support for cancer patients, members of the family and friends.

"The E-Revolution Conference will address issues related to the three Es -- electronics, economics and environment -- to highlight the importance of the new economy to the present generation of students who will become future entrepreneurs and leaders of Malaysia," said Lee.

Also present at the news conference was Joanne Fernandez, founder and chairperson of Cancerlink Foundation, who commended the youth of MCUK 2000 for organising charity events in aid of the less fortunate.

The student body's members come from British universities like Kings College in London and Oxford University and local institutions of higher learning such as Universiti Putra Malaysia and Universiti Tenaga Nasional.

-- BERNAMA

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