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40 companies to train UiTM students

SUBANG JAYA, Wed. - Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) has formed a smart partnership with 40 companies which would train and provide employment to its graduates.

It has also set up the UiTM-Industry Linkages Centre (UILC) to realise this.

Higher Education Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Datuk Dr Adham Baba, in congratulating UiTM, said more universities should emulate it.

The aim is to produce a well-rounded graduate who would fit easily in the job market. Such a graduate would know what is expected of him when he joins his employer as he has been given sufficient training while still studying.

"One reason for unemployment among graduates is that they do not have the necessary skills and exposure from the industry while they are still studying.

"Such a co-operation will benefit both parties, as even industries will stand to benefit from research and development done in the universities," he said.

UiTM vice-chancellor Datuk Seri Professor Ibrahim Abu Shah said the partnership, done through the UILC, would see a more co-ordinated working relationship between industry players from various sectors and the university.

"We want to reduce the mismatch between what is taught at university and the needs of industries," Ibrahim said.

The linkages would be established through various forms of joint ventures such as contract research, industrial training and attachments and consultations. Lecturers will be able to observe current trends and conduct their lessons with a more practical viewpoint rather than just theoretical.

UiTM today also held a seminar at Dewan Sri Budiman, UiTM, attended by industry players from sectors such as financial, manufacturing, information technology and health.

Six papers were presented. The first paper, entitled University-Industry Linkages: A Global Perspective, was presented by Datuk Samsudin Abu Hassan, the Malaysian Furniture Industry Council president.

Papers were also presented by Sirim Bhd chief executive officer Datuk Dr Mohd Ariffin Aton, MIGHT chief executive officer Datuk Dr Ahmed Taser Lope Pihie, Konsortium Logik Berhad chairman Mirzan Mahathir, Consolidated Plantations Berhad managing director Datuk Syed Tamin Syed Mohamed and Pristine Group managing director Tan Sri Dr Lau Ban Tin.

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