

Parliament: Stringent Criteria For UM International Staff Intake
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 9 (Bernama) -- The University of Malaya (UM) always ensures that its international academic staff intake meets the stringent criteria and quality requirement of the university's Standard Academic Performance Target.

Deputy Higher Education Minister Dr Hou Kok Chung said among the criteria were the number of high impact journal publications, supervision and research conducted by the academic staff.

"All appointments were made on contract and they did not affect the position of the local academic staff," he said when responding to a supplementary question from Khalid Samad (PAS-Shah Alam) at the Dewan Rakyat, here Wednesday.

Hou said according to the latest statistics, 15.9 per cent of the university's academic staff were foreigners, in accordance with the National Higher Education Strategic Plan (PSPTN) which sets out a research university should have at least 15 percent of non-Malaysians academic staff.

Replying to a supplementary question from Datuk Bung Mokhtar Radin (BN-Kinabatangan) on measures to empower the local universities to be on par with the other higher education institutions around the world, Hou said every university had to follow the plans and suggestions included in the PSPTN.

Among them were giving training on the teaching and learning methods to all lecturers through Bumiputera Academic Training Scheme and IPTA Academic Training Scheme, as well as creating a Brighstart programme where the universities would funded the first class graduates to further their studies at Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) level.

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