

**UniMy, First Boutique ICT University Launched  
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CYBERJAYA, Jan 31 (Bernama) - Universiti Malaysia of Computer Science and Engineering (UniMy), the country's first ICT boutique university, is set to produce graduates to meet the needs of the ICT industry, said Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin.

He said the New Economic Model indicated that only a handful of local computer scientists and engineers were directly involved in various areas of high-impact research and development (R&D) in IT related industries.

"Despite a large number of IT graduates, the expected supply of graduates specifically in the highly sought after fields of computer and software engineering until 2020 is only about 10,000, a far cry from the expected demand of 22,000 required for sustainable growth of the industry within our shores.

"The establishment of a boutique ICT university by the ministry was one of the solutions to meet these challenges.

"I am pleased to inform you that UniMy will be expected to contribute towards bridging the gap, and to generate more than 50 per cent of the required number of graduates that can fulfil the industry requirements, both in terms of knowledge relevancy and commercial adaptability to the ever changing demands of the ICT industry," he said when launching a UniMy temporary campus here Thursday.

Also present were UniMy vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Halimaton Hamdan, Higher Education Ministry secretary-general Datuk Ab. Rahim Md Noor and Prestariang Berhad chairman Datuk Ramli Abbas.

Mohamed Khaled congratulated UniMy on the establishment of the High Performance Computing Research Centre as a centre of excellence in nanotechnology.

He said the technical know-how and expertise in computational science in the country would be further enhanced and upgraded through the R&D conducted, facilities shared and human capital trained at the centre.

"The hands-on or learning by doing approach chosen by UniMy to be monitored and benchmarked with the University of Melbourne is very much appreciated and will add towards the diversity of knowledge methodologies available to the nation's higher education ecosystem," he said.

Meanwhile, Halimaton said UniMy would offer an integrated 1+3+1 Computer Science and Engineering Programme starting from the foundation level right up to the Master of Science degree with the first enrolment for Foundation Studies expected to begin in May while the undergraduate programme in September.

"We targeting to enrol 3,000 students by 2016," she said.

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