

UKM inspires futures, nurtures possibilities

KUALA LUMPUR: Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) celebrates its 50th anniversary today, and looks forward to building greater success as it faces future challenges.

"The year 2020 is one with many goals for UKM to accomplish, and it also brings along various challenges including the impact of Industry 4.0 and the latest one, Covid-19," said the

Faculty of Economics and Management's Deputy Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Professor Dr. Zafir Khan Mohamed Makhbul.

Throughout the university's 50 years of establishment, UKM has successfully produced many significant, well-renowned alumni and leaders influential in various fields that continue to drive the development of the country.

"It is true that the higher education system of this country is a beacon of hope for all, to produce a line of strong, competitive graduates especially in such a dynamic and organic environment today. UKM plays a role in preparing graduates who can fulfil the

requirements of the market through increasing the quality of teaching and learning to keep up with the demands of the industry."

UKM was established on May 18, 1970 with the mission to uphold the Malay language as the language of knowledge.

Despite the obstacles and problems faced, the university has done much to empower future generations to prosper and advance in various fields of knowledge, and be able to play an important role in the development of the nation's human capital.

The role of upgrading and internationalising future developments is also seen as an important agenda for UKM.

Prof. Zafir said creating success in the future would require various changes, both big and small.

"Change should also start within every citizen of UKM. If

we hold on to the saying 'we hold on the burnt charcoals until they become ashes', all dreams can be achieved with the condition that it is followed by effort, determination and positive thinking," he said.



UNIVERSITI
KEBANGSAAN
MALAYSIA

*The National University
of Malaysia*

"Observing and taking examples from successful individuals are the best steps made by UKM to prepare itself. Through other people's experiences, the citizens of UKM are able to make their own analysis, to look for and accept one's own strengths and weaknesses.

"In facing pandemics like Covid-19, a concrete and comprehensive recovery in multiple spectra of life would be necessary. As an institution, UKM recognises its responsibility in motivating change to the 'new normal' landscape in the society's daily activities. To make sure that Covid-19's aftermath does not inflame any ongoing economic and humanitarian crises, UKM is assisting the government in economic recovery efforts, public health development, environmental sustainability, and

entrepreneurship through the digital platform."

UKM is also aware that Industry 4.0 also affects the service delivery concept that will need to change to adapt to more complex challenges. Thus, it has formulated a strategy to allow it to continue to be competitive.

The Internet of Things (IoT), analytical data skills, cyber security and the readiness of the organisations are among the changes that should be given focus by UKM in planning a more effective human capital development strategic plan.

The principles of Industry 4.0 are steered the best way possible to support the empowerment of research, academic, internationalisation, human resource and financial strategic plans. All the main principles in the 2019-2021

UKM Strategic Plan will catapult UKM to the top of national and international levels.

"As we set high standards and goals to be achieved, our efforts also need to be extraordinary and unique. All these dreams are not impossible if they are woven with effort, determination and positive thinking.

"It is hoped that UKM continues to prosper in the world of education and becomes the catalyst to a world of development. To the citizens of UKM, remember that we are inspiring futures and nurturing possibilities. We inspire hope, so we need to continue working hard to create a better future. In pursuing this dream, there is no need to throw away old cultures, but new ones should be nurtured, grown and nourished."



*Professor
Dr. Zafir Khan
Mohamed
Makhbul*

