

Students' say on the abolition of UUCA



SITI MARIAH SALAHUDIN

Leader of GAGASAN, a group under Pertubuhan ISRA Kampus
Third-year Bachelor of Islamic Finance student,
Universiti Malaysia Sabah,
Labuan International Campus

"OUR members consist of a number of students from the Faculty of International Finance, Labuan and Faculty of Computing and Informatics. We promote academic freedom and are a platform for the voice of students. We believe restrictions on the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association under the UUCA and the Disciplinary Rule fail to satisfy both Malaysian and international law.

By abolishing UUCA, I hope that the students' movement reverts to being their voice before the act was enforced."



ADIB ASHMAN BURHAN BURHANUDIN

Student Representative Council president
Fourth-year Bachelor of Laws student,
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

"UUCA is one of the important Acts to ensure the harmony of the institutions and provides the structure of public universities in the country. It has been the guardian for higher education institutions.

The abolishment of UUCA must be viewed seriously. The opinion of stakeholders of the institutions must be taken unanimously. Hold discussions with the stakeholders of the institutions or present an alternative in Parliament.

The university itself is established as an autonomous body, outside the interference of the Education Minister.

There is student autonomy; it depends on students to exercise it."



NG YI XIONG

Activist, Malaysian Youth and Students Democratic Movement
Second-year Bachelor of Computer Science student,
Universiti Sains Malaysia

"UUCA is an act which affects campus democracy and restricts student autonomy. Although it has undergone several amendments to give more freedom and autonomy to students, it feels as if the bird is given a bigger cage instead of doing away with it.

The Act is affecting the quality of university students, most of whom are fearful of fighting for their rights and will rather be quiet when there is inequality.

The Act has rendered the Student Representative Council at university functionless as it is not involved in university policy and planning. This shows that student autonomy has been reduced to a minimum."