

Changing the model to be a global player



MALAYSIA needs to transform to be an educational hub and a global player.

"At Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), we are changing the paradigm to be a global player," said vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Mohd Zohadie Bardaie.

It has established eight goals to realise its vision. "Each has its own measurable objectives and the achievement of each depends on the execution of the action plans," he added.

The first goal is to produce quality graduates who are competitive and resilient through lifelong learning.

"This can be attained through strengthening the teaching and learning system at the university by providing a student-centred teaching and learning system; reviewing periodically the curriculum with emphasis on course objectives, structure and presentation and by enhancing the use of ICT in curriculum design in the teaching and learning process.

"UPM intends to increase the competitiveness of diploma and first-degree programmes to attract quality students by intensifying its educational promotion and by strengthening informa-

tion networks locally and abroad," he said.

The next goal is to transform UPM into a renowned research university.

"This is to be achieved by enhancing excellence in research and by providing excellent research support facilities."

There is also a need for the continual upgrade of UPM as a renowned centre of learning for agriculture and bio-resources services internationally.

"The UPM campus has been transformed into an educational and an Agricultural Technology Park to reinforce the relevance of agricultural educational learning," he said.

"And to enhance professional services in agriculture, UPM has been established as a specialist service centre as well as an agricultural referee and consultant," he adds.



PROMOTING EXCELLENCE: Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad receives a plaque from UPM.

There is a need to enhance a management system that is effective, efficient, transparent and client-friendly.

"A gradual quality system in all centres of responsibility has been implemented to improve the management

system, which sustains a culture of continuous improvement.

"Officers involved in all levels of strategic planning, action plans and decision-making mechanisms sustain a management system based on transparency."

It places emphasis on developing and creating excellent human resources and a professional environment.

"Mutual staff exchange programmes at the international level are encouraged to attract, appoint, retain and develop potential manpower at all levels," he said.

And to create a more conducive professional environment, benchmarks have been established for academic and work environments.

It intends to promote an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) culture through e-University programmes.

"To increase the use of ICT in research and consultation services, collaborative research within the university and internationally has been nurtured. Potential applications are marketed," he added.

It intends to generate and

manage its financial resources in an effective and efficient manner. "We need to be able to attract non-government financial resources. Excellence in research attracts funding internationally and from local corporations," he says.

"To offer quality services to clients with e-Management support, the ICT information system and infrastructure within UPM has been strengthened."

Its main goal is to raise its position as a centre of professional development services and continuous education.

It intends to produce up-to-date materials and lifelong learning methods.

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