

PROF Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah has been appointed vice-chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) for a term of three years.

He replaces Prof Datuk Seri Dr Kamaruzaman Ampon whose term of service ended on June 17.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said Prof Mohd Harun's appointment was based on criteria set by the ministry, and also takes into consideration his academic background and administrative experience as deputy vice-chancellor (Research and Innovation).

"As a university which has chosen marine and environmental science as its niche area, UMS needs effective leadership to ensure it can continue to compete in the country's higher education sector," he said in a statement.

Born in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah on Jan 1, 1961, Prof Mohd Harun's

New head for UMS



Sabah-born Prof Mohd Harun is the new UMS vice-chancellor and will serve for a term of three years.

undergraduate degree was in environmental studies from Universiti Putra Malaysia.

He subsequently obtained his Masters of Science in the field of Natural Resources from Universiti

Kebangsaan Malaysia and his PhD in Environmental Studies from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

Prof Mohd Harun's previous posts include dean and deputy dean (Academic and International Affairs) at the university's School of Science and Technology.

He has been serving as deputy vice-chancellor (Research and Innovation) since last year until his appointment as the new vice-chancellor.

Mohamed Khaled thanked Prof Kamaruzaman for his service.

"Prof Kamaruzaman has been heading UMS since 2008 and has brought many changes and improvements to the university with its own strengths and specialty," he said.