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Abdul Hakim Juri appointed UCTS vice-chancellor/CEO

SIBU: Professor Dato Dr Abdul Hakim Juri, a PhD holder in Mechanical Engineering majoring in Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing, has been appointed as vice-chancellor/chief executive officer of University College of Technology Sarawak (UCTS).

His duties include overseeing the administration works of UCTS which will begin its first intake for foundation students in May.

Before he took over his new post, he was deputy president (Academic) of Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) from October 2002 and later promoted to senior deputy president in February 2004.

He was responsible for academic programmes, international collaboration, research, teaching and learning methodology at all seven UniKL campuses throughout the country. On Sept 1, 2005, he was appointed UniKL president/chief executive officer.

He strongly believes in a student-centred, self-directed and application-oriented teaching/learning approach for preparing technical graduates to cope with rapid technological changes.

After completing his PhD Abdul Hakim started his career as a lecturer at the Faculty of Engineering in Universiti Malaya.

After three years there, he ventured into the industry by joining an automotive component manufacturing company to head its Research and Development Department - responsible for the localisation of components in air-conditioning systems for imported CBU and CKD cars.

His experience in Technical and Vocational Education started when he was appointed deputy director of German Malaysian Institute (GMI) in 1992. It is a joint-venture deal between the governments of Malaysia and Germany.

Abdul Hakim became its director in 1996 and led the institute for six years until September 2002.

During his tenure at GMI, he initiated the 2-year programme to prepare Malaysian students with German language and practical education to qualify for study at German University of Applied Sciences.

In appreciation for his contribution in strengthening bilateral relation between Germany and Malaysia, Abdul Hakim was conferred the Bundesverdienstkreuz, Federal Cross of Merits, by the German president in March 2003.

In October 2006, he was conferred Darjah Kebesaran Sultan Ahmad Shah Pahang (DSAP) that carries the title Dato' by Sultan Ahmad Shah.