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UUM wants all to have say in VC selection

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KUALA LUMPUR: Non-academicians should be included in the panel to appoint vice-chancellors, Universiti Utara Malaysia vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Nordin Kardi said.

This would ensure that the appointment represented a wider spectrum, he said.

He said the panel need not consist of academicians alone but should also include student council representatives, members of public and university staff.

He said it should also comprise people who are knowledgeable, credible and conversant on university issues.

"This is important so that everyone in the university community will have some say in leading the university," he told reporters after opening the First East Asian International Conference on Human and Social Development.

Currently, the Higher Education Minister appoints vice-chancellors.

Dr Nordin was commenting on a statement by the minister Datuk Seri Dr Shafie Mohamed Salleh on the setting up of a committee to select vice-chancellors in a move to enhance local universities' performance.

The decision was made following the drop in ranking of Universiti Malaya (UM) and Universiti Sains Malaysia in this year's Times Higher Education university ranking.

UM fell from 89th to 169th while USM, which was at 111th place last year, dropped out of the list this year. — Bernama