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UUM to build RM99.5mil college

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ALOR STAR: A RM99.5mil off-campus student residential college is among several new facilities which are being built by Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM).

The college, which is located in Bukit Kachi, about 2km from the UUM campus in Sintok, will be able to accommodate 4,500 students.

UUM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Ahmad Fawzi Basri said work on the building started on Aug 8 and was

scheduled for completion in February 2003.

He said other facilities under construction were a RM18.5mil academic complex which was scheduled for completion in September next year and lecture halls, costing RM6.4mil, were expected to be completed next January.

Dr Ahmad Fawzi said another academic complex, costing RM23.965mil, was completed on May 22. The complex has been used to house the School of Information Technology.

He said 300 first-year Accountancy students, who were currently staying in Taman Siswa in Bandar Darulaman, would move to a new RM53.2mil student residential complex in November.

On another matter, Dr Ahmad Fawzi said UUM was confident of getting the ISO 9002 certification for all schools and departments in the university by end of the year.

He said 94 quality process had been documented for the purpose and were ready for

audit by the Standard and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (Sirim).

On the convocation this weekend, he said, 69 Cambodians would be among 3,777 graduates and post-graduates receiving their scrolls.

The Cambodians, who would receive the Masters in Business Administration (MBA), are the first batch from Cambodia to graduate from this course.

A Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD) student from Sri Lanka,

Masters in Science student from Pakistan, and an MBA student each from India and Thailand would also receive their scrolls.

He said the university would also confer honorary PhDs to former Welfare Department director Abdullah Malim Baginda, 69, and Malaysian Institute of Accountants president Abdul Samad Alias, 58. Abdullah Malim, who is actively involved in social work, will receive a PhD in social work while Abdul Samad will get a

PhD in accountancy.

In conjunction with the convocation, Dr Ahmad Fawzi said a five-day convocation exposition would be held at the campus from Wednesday.

Activities lined up for the exposition, which will be opened by Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamed on Thursday, include exhibitions and sales of items, health checks, daily blood donation campaigns, a treasure hunt, snake exhibition, and cultural shows.