

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S SPECIAL MESSAGE TO UUM ALUMNI



Assalamualaikum and good day to all honoured UUM alumni.

On behalf of the Management of the University, I would like to wish all our alumni well and in good health and that you are safe at home with beloved families. As we know it, the Movement Control Order (MCO) enforced by the government in mitigating the COVID-19 pandemic is now well into its third phase. In the face of this critical and difficult situation, many aspects of our daily activities that we took for granted have come to a grinding stop. Notwithstanding, we are also witnessing the very best in human spirit from different levels of society, race, religion and culture that have come forth to extend support especially to the frontliners. In this respect, the University took cognizant of the well-being of all its students, staff and alumni and will take the necessary measures to support their needs.

University operation throughout the MCO

It goes without saying that the current situation is affecting everyone. The University is constantly aware of the importance of ensuring that the campus is safe and free from COVID-19 pandemic especially so when there is a significant number of students still residing and not allowed to leave due to the MCO. We are being proactive in this respect and all the necessary measures are taken to ensure that their welfare and as well as that of the staff on duty, is given due priority by the Management.

The Student Affairs Department (SAD), led by its Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs and Alumni), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hendrik Lamsali, has been active in engaging the students since the onset of the MCO. The department has not only been entrusted to look after every aspect of the students' personal needs and general welfare, but also to go beyond in providing round the clock counselling service, via online, to those who are emotionally affected by the ensuing health concern.

As for the welfare of all staff, the University has implemented various incentives and initiatives such as the moratorium on payment of university loans for employees, provision for daily work allowances to UUM frontliners and others. With regard to the teaching and learning (T&L) and assessment activities, the university has agreed and approved that all courses, beginning 27 April 2020, will be conducted online utilising the Webex platform.

University appreciates the sacrifice of its frontliners

I am personally very grateful and indeed proud of the commitment shown by our staff who are frontliners from the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Their resolute commitment in providing the best service to safeguard the campus and assisting the Royal Malaysian Police in enforcing the MCO is highly commendable. The frontliners comprising staff from the Security Department, University Health Center, Student Affairs Department, Development and Maintenance Department and others have shown sterling cooperation and camaraderie in ensuring that life and activities at the university continue smoothly, albeit with some restrictions at mitigating further outbreak of the pandemic.

In addition, I am proud to acknowledge the efforts of UUM students and staff, as well as some volunteers from outside the university, who have come forward to help produce the isolation gowns and face shields, which are part of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), for the frontliners at the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital (HSB) and Kangar Hospital when dealing with Covid-19 health matters. This small contribution made by UUM will facilitate the task of frontline personnel in combating the pandemic.

Alumni as the Backbone

In this hour of need, I would like to take this opportunity to call upon all UUM Alumni to come forward in assisting those affected by the pandemic. Your donations will be used to help those in need including students, staff, frontliners and fellow Alumni. Your generous contribution during this crucial time will ensure that all activities and programmes during the MCO are successfully implemented. All donations can be made to:

**TABUNG SUMBANGAN UUM COVID-19, BANK ISLAM MALAYSIA BERHAD
(02-093- 01-000001-0)**

To those fellow alumni who are affected by this unprecedented health crisis and in need of assistance, please contact **Dr. Muslimin Wallang at 019-5719770 or email: muslimin@uum.edu.my**. Lest we forget, if you do have information as to the plight of some of our fellow alumni brothers and sisters who might be in need of assistance, please notify or send an alert to the UUM Alumni Center for further action on our part. The University will try its best to help in any way possible. In Sha ALLAH.

I believe your contribution reflects your unwavering concern, support and love for your Alma Mater. My heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to all UUM Alumni for contributing to this fund. I make 'doa' that your contribution will be handsomely rewarded by ALLAH SWT.

In closing, I pray that we will all be safe and well and come out from this health crisis victorious against the COVID-19 pandemic. Patience and persistent are two great friends that can help us face the trials from ALLAH SWT. In Sha ALLAH

**#StayHome
#KitaJagaKita
#StayStrong**

PROF. DATO' DR. AHMAD BASHAWIR HAJI ABDUL GHANI
Vice-Chancellor