



27 SEP, 2019

Wawasan Open University opens first Sabah learning centre

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By VESTA VANESSA JSOL

KOTA KINABALU: Wawasan Open University (WOU) has set up its first ever regional learning centre in Sabah.

Its Chief Executive cum Vice Chancellor, Prof Lily Chan said that it was made possible with the signing of a collaboration agreement with Almacrest International College (AIC) here on Thursday.

The agreement was signed by Lily and AIC Chief Executive Officer, Stephanie Yen Chung Wai. It was witnessed by WOU Kuching Regional Centre Director, Jimmy Chai and AIC Deputy CEO, Dudi Pan Yen Far.

Through the agreement, students of AIC and adult learners from Sabah will be able to pursue tertiary ed-

ucation via open distance learning (ODL) with WOU at AIC.

"This smart partnership will further strengthen our effort in reaching out to the communities in Sabah with our offer of in-demand tertiary qualification for career advancement," Lily said.

She also foresees that it will inspire more Sabahans to invest in education for a better future.

"I hope the collaboration will motivate employers and companies in Sabah to upskill and reskill their workforce for greater productivity.

"Micro-credentials provide competency-based recognition for the skills that students learn, regardless of where and how they learned them," she said adding that learners can acquire broad employability skills,

and become technologically-minded workers who are flexible and resourceful.

WOU was established in 2006. A private institution of higher learning in Penang, which offers close to 60 undergraduates and postgraduates programmes via open distance learning.

Since 2013, WOU has expanded into full-time study and currently offers 9 full-time Bachelor degree programs.

Earlier, Stephanie highlighted the benefits to Sabahans in pursuing higher education with WOU.

"This collaboration goes in tandem with our vision of becoming an education hub here in Sabah, providing innovative courses to our potential students.

"We are grateful for this oppor-



Lily (2nd left) exchanging documents with Stephanie.

tunity to work with WOU in providing flexible learning modes for degrees and masters qualifications.

"With this collaboration, we can make higher learning more accessible for students as well as working adults," Stephanie said.

Located at Centre Point, AIC is

one of the fastest growing private college in Sabah.

Established in 2004, it currently offers five diploma programmes in the field of retail management, accountancy, marketing, leisure management, office administration and economics.



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SUMMARIES

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