

**SPEECH BY LT. KOL. PROF. DATO' DR. KAMARUDIN HUSSIN, KUKUM'S  
RECTOR AT 'KUKUM DINNER WITH INDUSTRY' ON 19 MARCH 2005, AT  
PRINCE HOTEL & RESIDENCE, KUALA LUMPUR.**

BISMILLAH HIRRAHMAN NIRRAHIM - IN THE NAME OF GOD, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

ASSALAMUALAIKUM WARAHMATULLAHI TAALA WABARAKATUH AND BLESS TO ALL.

YANG BERHORMAT, DATO' HASSAN SAID, CHIEF DIRECTOR OF MALAYSIA HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,

YANG BERHORMAT, TAN SRI DATO' SERI DR. ABDUL HAMID PAWANTEH, PRESIDENT OF DEWAN NEGARA SPEAKER CUM CHAIRMAN OF TEKNOLOGI TENAGA PERLIS CONSORTIUM,

YANG BERBAHAGIA, DATO' DR. NORRAESHAH HAJI MOHAMMAD, CHAIRMAN OF ARCATEL MALAYSIA,

YANG BERBAHAGIA PROF. DR. ALI YEON MD. SHAKAFF, KUKUM'S DEPUTY RECTOR OF ACADEMIC

YANG BERUSAHA TUAN HAJI RUSLI BIN ABD HAMID, KUKUM'S REGISTRAR

YANG BERUSAHA TUAN HAJI AYOB ISMAIL, KUKUM'S TREASURER,

YANG BERUSAHA PUAN HAJJAH FOYZIAH AHMAD NASURUDIN, KUKUM'S HEAD OF LIBRARIAN,

KUKUM'S DEANS OF SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING,

KUKUM' S HEAD OF DEPARTMENTS,

OUR DISTINGUISHED CEOs FROM THE MALAYSIA INDUSTRIES,

MANAGING DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVES CUM STUDENT SUPERVISORS,

MOST RESPECTED MEMBERS OF THE PRESS,

AND MY BELOVED STUDENTS.

FIRST AND FOREMOST, GRATEFUL TO ALLAH, PRAISE TO HIM, THE MOST GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL FOR HIS BLESSINGS IN GIVING US THIS PRECIOUS OPPORTUNITY AND MOMENTS TO GATHER AT THIS BEAUTIFUL AND MEMORABLE EVENING IN CONJUNCTION 'KUKUM DINNER WITH INDUSTRY'.

THIS INDEED WHERE WE APPRICIATE AND ACKNOWLEDGE THE MALAYSIAN INDUSTRY FOR THEIR ENDLESS AND CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR KOLEJ UNIVERSITI KEJURUTERAAN UTARA MALAYSIA OR NORTHERN MALAYSIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TOWARDS OUR JOURNEY AND DREAMS IN BECOMING A WORLD CLASS ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTION.

WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY SINCERE CONGRATULATION TO THE ORGANISING COMITTEE OF THIS EVENT FOR THEIR SUPERB ORGANISATION IN MAKING THIS DINNER A SUCCESSFUL ONE.

YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, HAVE INDEED SHOWN THE EXAMPLE OF HARDWORKING AND FIRM VISIONARIES PERFORMANCE WHICH

RESEMBLANCE THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION AND VISION IN PURSUING OUR GOALS TO BE THE BEST NOT ONLY IN MALAYSIA BUT IN WIDE WORLD. INSYALLAH OR GOD'S WILLING. IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURES TO WELCOME YOU ALL, THE MALAYSIA INDUSTRY COMMUNITY TO THIS HUMBLE YET PLEASANT DINNER.

KUKUM, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IS ESTABLISHED AS A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING ON 25TH JULY, 2001. THE RECTOR AND DEPUTY RECTOR WERE OFFICIALLY APPOINTED IN FEBRUARY, 2002. KUKUM NOW HAS A WORKFORCE OF APPROXIMATELY 600 PEOPLE COMPRISING ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC STAFF AND 1,300 STUDENTS. KUKUM'S AIMS IS TO PRODUCE ENGINEERS WITH SOUND TECHNICAL SKILLS TO SUPPORT THE MALAYSIAN NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL PLAN.

KUKUM ADOPTS A PRACTICAL-ORIENTED APPROACH WHEREBY 60% OF OUR TIME STUDENTS ARE GUIDED IN LABORATORY SETTINGS, INCLUDING INDUSTRIAL EXPOSURE; WHILST THE REMAINING 40% IS SPENT ON FORMAL LECTURES. THIS FACILITATES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY IN DESIGN AND ASSEMBLY OF PARTS, AS WELL AS THE ABILITY TO TEST, MAINTAIN, AND APPLY WHATEVER THEORETICAL CONCEPTS IMPARTED DURING LECTURE SESSIONS.

IN ADDITION, KUKUM STUDENTS ARE ALSO GROOMED TO BE COMPETENT AND CONFIDENT IN EXPLORING ENTREPRENEURIAL POSSIBILITIES UPON GRADUATION. OUR STUDENTS ALSO TAKE PART IN VARIOUS CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WHICH HELP TO BUILD THEIR STRENGTH AND CHARACTER OUTSIDE OF THE ACADEMIC DOMAIN.

KUKUM GRADUATES ARE EXPECTED TO NOT ONLY EXHIBIT EXCELLENCE IN KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE ACADEMIC FIELDS, BUT ARE ALSO PROFICIENT IN COMMUNICATION AND

ICT SKILLS, AS WELL AS POSSESSING UNSURPASSED TRAITS OF PROFESSIONALISM AND PATRIOTISM.

SOME MAY ASK WHAT IT TAKES KUKUM BEING A ROOKIE IN COMPARABLE TO SOME ESTABLISHED AND CONVENTIONAL UNIVERSITIES TO PRODUCE QUALITY GRADUATES? ARE OUR ACADEMICIANS CREDIBLE AND COMPETENT ENOUGH?

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN,

BUT AS THEY SAY, IT TAKE TWO TO TANGO AND KUKUM BEING THE YOUNGEST UNIVERSITY IN MALAYSIA, SURELY CANNOT STAND BY ITS OWN AND BE INDEPENDENT. KUKUM BELIEVES THAT A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH INDUSTRY IS CRUCIAL BECAUSE EDUCATION, ESPECIALLY IN ENGINEERING, IS VERY MUCH RELEVANT AND INTERMINGLED WITH THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD.

WHAT A POIGNANT SCENARIOS IT WILL BE IF WE ARE LEFT ALONE TO FACE THE GLOBALIZATION AND BORDERLESS WORLD PLUS WITH THE URGENCY OF TODAY'S GREAT TECHNOLOGY WHICH LEAP AND CHANGE DRASTICALLY WITHIN A GLIMPSE.

THIS IS WHERE YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN THE DISTINGUISHED INDUSTRY PLAYERS, COME IN AND PLAY YOUR OWN SIGNIFICANT ROLES IN CONTRIBUTING TO KUKUM'S EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT. ALLOW ME TO OFFER A ZILLION THANKS TO ALL OF YOU IN MAKING OUR WORKING RELATION A GREAT SUCCESS.

KUKUM AS A RESULT, HAS CONDUCTED MANY ACTIVITIES WITH THE SUPPORT FROM THE INDUSTRIES, NAMELY,

- I) STUDENT INDUSTRIAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM
- II) STAFF INTERNSHIP PROGRAM,
- III) INDUSTRIAL EXPOSURE PROGRAM,
- IV) ENGINEERING ENTREPRENEURIAL PROGRAM
- V) INDUSTRIAL LECTURE PROGRAM
- VI) INDUSTRIAL VISITS AND MANY OTHERS.

I AM VERY MUCH DELIGHTED IF THE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES CAN THROW ANY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE BETTER REVIEWS OF OUR ACADEMICS PROGRAM. BE IT POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, AS WE ARE WILLINGLY TO ACCEPT YOUR MOST HONEST CRITIQUES FOR KUKUM'S BENEFIT.

IN FACT, TONIGHT'S DINNER SERVES AS A GOOD PLATFORM FOR OUR LECTURERS AND SUPERVISORS TO MEET EACH OTHER AND DISCUSS IN DETAILS ON PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY OUR 115 STUDENTS DURING THEIR ATTACHMENT PERIOD WITH THE INDUSTRY.

COME DECEMBER, I AM HOPING ONCE AGAIN INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES WILL CONSIDER AND ACCEPT KUKUM'S NEXT BATCH OF 600 STUDENTS TO UNDERGO THEIR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING PROGRAM. THOUGH THE NUMBER IS QUITE LARGE, I AM HOPING THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF PLACES FOR OUR STUDENTS TO FIT IN.

ANOTHER ASPECT THAT EXCITES ME MOST IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE INDUSTRY SPECIFICALLY IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON ANY RELATED STUDY FIELDS THAT CAN DEVELOP INTO PILOT PROJECTS.

THIS COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH NOT ONLY STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONSHIPS BUT BENEFIT GREATLY BOTH PARTIES ESPECIALLY IN DISCOVERING NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND WHICH CAN LATER BE PATENTED AS MALAYSIAN BRANDS PRODUCT. IT IS SOMETHING WE CAN BE PROUD OF AND LEAD US TO THE WORLD'S RECOGNITION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST, IT IS MY FINAL AND ULTIMATE HOPE TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE INDUSTRY TOP MANAGEMENT TO EMPLOY KUKUM STUDENTS WHO HAVE UNDERGONE THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING AFTER THE STUDENTS GRADUATED.

LET US WORK HAND-IN-HAND AND IN MAKING OUR ACADEMIC INSTITUTION THE MOST EXCELLENT IN THIS REGION AS ENVISAGED BY OUR BELOVED PRIME MINISTER, YAB DATO' SERI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI AHMAD BADAWI.

FINALLY, I HOPE OUR RELATIONSHIPS AND TIES WILL CONTINUE TO GROW STRONGER AS I FIRMLY BELIEVE THERE ARE MANY AREAS OF STUDIES AND RESEARCH LIES INFRONT OF US WAITING TO BE EXPLORED AND DISCOVERED. THANK YOU.

WASALAMUALAIKUM WARAHMATULLAHI TAALA WABARAKATUH AND BLESSINGS.

