PRESS RELEASE
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UCSF Appoints Dr Gusni Saat as New Vice-Chancellor



KOTA KINABALU – The Chairman of the University College Sabah Foundation (UCSF) Board of Directors (BoD) and Board of Governors (BoG), Datuk Dr Mohd Yaakub Hj Johari, announced that both boards, at their respective meetings, had approved the appointment of Dr Gusni Saat as the new Vice-Chancellor of UCSF for a two-year term, effective 1 November 2026.

Dr Gusni succeeds Datuk Dr Rafiq Idris, who has decided to conclude his tenure earlier than originally scheduled.

During his four-year tenure, Datuk Dr Rafiq rendered exemplary service and played a significant role in advancing UCSF to its current standing. He assumed the position of Vice-Chancellor during a particularly challenging period in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, providing leadership and guidance as the institution navigated the post-pandemic recovery.

On behalf of the BoD, BoG, Management and staff of UCSF, Datuk Dr Mohd Yaakub expressed his deepest appreciation to Datuk Dr Rafiq for his dedicated leadership, invaluable contributions and exemplary service to the institution over the past four years. He also extended his best wishes for Datuk Dr Rafiq's future endeavours.

Datuk Dr Mohd Yaakub further conveyed his appreciation to Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) for its cooperation and support in releasing Datuk Dr Rafiq to serve UCSF on secondment.

Meanwhile, the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor, Dr Gusni Saat, is no stranger to UCSF, having served the institution for more than five years.

Dr Gusni had extensive experience, more than 30 years in the academic world, having served in University Kebangsaan Malaysia, University Malaysia Sarawak and University Malaysia Sabah. Dr Gusni obtained his PhD from UKM in 2005.