

## **Grading system for varsity co-curriculum**

THE Higher Education Ministry is considering introducing a grading system for undergraduates who are active in co-curriculum activities, said Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed.

The system, proposed to be enforced next semester, aims to recognise students' involvement in activities and programmes at national or international level to boost the image of their universities, said Mustapa.

The proposal is in the final stage of negotiations. Public universities will coordinate the award of a standard grading system.

“This system will facilitate employers to make their choice when undergraduates attend interviews,” Mustapa told reporters after opening the Indian cultural night at Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, recently.

The grading system will spur university students to participate in activities and acquire skills in various disciplines.

“Initially, the system will be implemented in public universities. It will later be extended to private tertiary learning institutions,” said Mustapa, adding that co-curriculum marks would be separate from academic marks.

“The co-curriculum grades, from one to 10, will also help to assess the personality of an individual, an important aspect in career development when he or she enters the job market,” he said, adding that it was an extension of the eligibility criteria for a student from school to university entry.

“A student is required to be active in co-curricular activities to be eligible to enter a public university. This is an extension of that criteria to prepare the student for the job market,” said Mustapa. – Bernama