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Administrative Professionals today evolve into a new breed of leaders

Kota Kinabalu – Our career life is like a ladder and each one of us have a role to play in order to climb up the ladder, said the Corporate Secretary of Yayasan Sabah, Dr. Karim Samsuri during the closing ceremony of the Administrative Professionals Conference (APC) 2015 held recently at the Grand Ballroom, Shangri-La's Tanjung Aru Resort & Spa, Kota Kinabalu.

According to him, one must set the ladder upon a solid ground before one can start to climb. "The solid ground is important to support the ladder as it becomes the foundation in determining the success of one's career," he added.

This is the sixth year APC has been successfully organised by Yayasan Sabah Group. There were 100 participants in the conference who came from various agencies, namely, Yayasan Sabah Group and its subsidiary companies, government departments as well as the private sector.

The theme for the conference is Shaping the Future via Engagement and Brand Alignment with speakers Ms. Gillian King, talking about climbing the corporate ladder; Dr. Caroline Gomez touching on renewed assertiveness walking the tightrope and the main speaker, Dr. Edwin Varo sharing his knowledge on potential vs. experiencing the undeniable allure.

Inputs from all speakers were very enlightening and refreshing; sharing new knowledge and renewing motivation as participants have only good things to say about the conference. Jakiah Gabil @ Varelly Binti Pilih, an Account and Admin Executive at Sistem Konsult Sdn. Bhd., Penampang mentioned that this was the first time she attended the conference. According to her, listening to the speakers has motivated her.

She added, “The second session has enlightened me the most since it has helped me look into ways to improve my daily administrative tasks. Practice and applying this valuable knowledge one day at a time is the way to do it.”

Doreen Lajuat, the Human Resource Development Manager from Sabah Credit Corporation, Penampang was also a first timer to the conference. She finds that the conference has been very educational and interesting. She feels that the second speaker, Dr. Caroline has expressed herself clearly in a real life world. When asked about applying the tips shared by the speakers in daily job and life, she said, “It is a fact especially in dealing with family life as well as career working mothers.”

John Joy, an Assistant District Officer in the Penampang District Office mentioned that this was his first time attending the conference. It has given him additional knowledge and according to John, the last speaker, Dr. Edwin has been very motivating. “I will take all the speakers’ tips one day at a time, applying them in my daily life and job,” he said.

Another participant was Noorazmi Mickley, a Senior Assistant Manager at Sawit Kinabalu revealed that this was not his first time attending the conference. The conference has always been good and inspiring. According to him, all of the speakers were excellent in delivering their topics. When asked about how he would apply the tips shared by the speakers to his daily routine, he said, “I will put into practice immediately.”

Adding to the lists of first timer was Isaac Grey Denis, Yayasan Sabah-PETRONAS Programme Coordinator attached with Conservation and Environmental Management

Development Division of Yayasan Sabah Group. According to him, participants learned to motivate themselves in order to reach their goal, being knowledgeable and know what is needed to change in terms of being assertive in making decision as well as planning for success. “The first session, Ms. Gillian King shares her experience climbing up the corporate ladder. How she found her ‘champion’/role model who eventually assist her to change and motivate her to reach what she is today,” he said. He added that the speakers also shared on how to request for something or how to convey ideas. “Changing verbs, using ‘won’t’ instead of ‘can’t’, use ‘want’ instead of ‘need’ can affect a lot in terms of developing ones confidence in work and everyday life,” he explained.

Apart from sharing of valuable knowledge by distinguished speakers, participants were also involved in group and individual activities. Participants were also given a surprise with 12 lucky draw prizes.



Pix 1 : *Conference participants listening attentively.*



Pix 2 : *Session one speaker, Gillian shared her experience and tips on ways to climb the corporate ladder.*



Pix 3 : *Session two speaker, Consultant Psychologist Dr. Caroline talks about how to be assertive while walking the tightrope.*



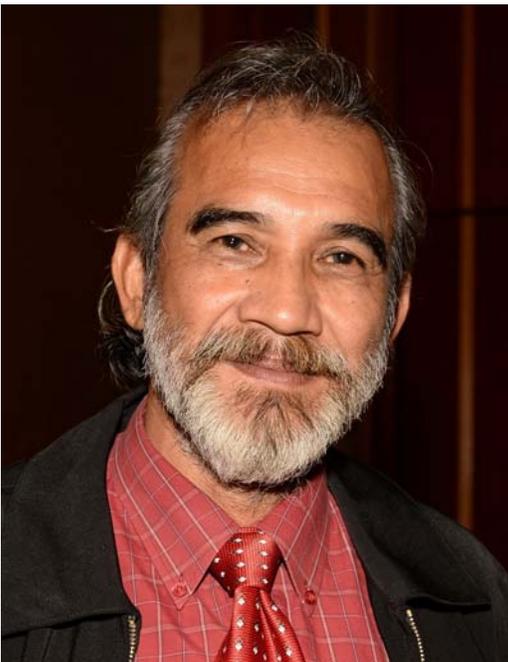
Pix 4 : *Dr. Edwin spoke about potential vs experience employees and becoming a brand ambassador of organisation.*



Pix 5 : *First time participant, Jakiah felt motivated and revitalized after the conference.*



Pix 6 : *Doreen finds the conference educational and interesting.*



Pix 7 : *John will apply the tips shared by speakers one day at a time.*



Pix 8 : *Senior Assistant Manager, Noorazmi finds the conference good and inspiring.*



Pix 9 : *Isaac absorbing every aspects of the conference... feeling rejuvenated*



Pix 10 : *Group activity ... presentation on shapes based on conference theme.*



Pix 11 : *Individual activity ... collecting participants' name, place of work and email*

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