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## UUM targets more PhD lecturers by 2015

SINTOK: Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) aims to have 851 lecturers with Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) by 2015 to enable it to qualify as a research university with an autonomous status.

Its vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohamed Mustafa Ishak said, of the present 1,442 academic staff at UUM, 544 or 46 per cent have a PhD.

"Another 241 or 21 per cent are furthering their studies overseas while 287 or 24 per cent have completed their study leave but have not obtained a PhD yet," he said here.

He said UUM would also increase the number of visiting lecturers to between 10 and 15 per cent of the overall academic staff.

"Nevertheless, we will only retain those who are really competitive and capable of contributing significantly to the university's strategic agenda," he said. - Bernama