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Bawani wins UUM seat

OUTSPOKEN student activist K.S. Bawani (*pic*), who shot to fame after the "Listen, listen, listen" video went viral, has won a seat in what appears to be the closest battle in the Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) student body elections in recent years.

"Thank you to all my comrades who are always teaching and guiding me... this victory is also your victory. The struggle against oppression continues," Bawani said on Facebook.

She became one of 13 pro-Mahasiswa-aligned candidates who trumped their opponents, making major inroads in the UUM student body — which like Universiti Teknologi Mara — is largely seen as a pro-establishment stronghold.

Bawani's win was two seats less than the Aspirasi candidates, who won 15 seats out of

the total 36 contested. Another group, Hijrah, won six seats while independent candidates won two seats.

The pro-Mahasiswa (Pro-M) movement positions itself as a counter to the Aspirasi student movement, which is more pro-establishment. Hijrah is seen as a pro-M splinter group.

Last year, the Aspirasi-aligned candidates claimed 34 out of the 36 seats up for contest.

Aspirasi won the student body elections in Universiti Sains Malaysia while Pro-M won in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah students will hit the polls today while Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and Universiti Putra Malaysia are expected to hold their elections next month. — Malaysiakini

