

The Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology offered by MSU College is designed for students interested in scientific discoveries and medical research.



Grooming future frontliners

THE emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the vital role of medical laboratory technologists who are in charge of conducting the real-time polymerase chain reaction tests (RT-PCR) on suspected Covid-19 samples.

They are the unsung heroes behind the scene.

Though we can't see them in the front lines, they have made enormous contributions in the fight against this deadly disease.

MSU College offers the Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) to those who are interested in scientific discoveries and medical research.

It prepares students with well-balanced programmes comprising academic knowledge with hands-on practical skills which will enhance student's knowledge and skills.

The programme is a comprehensive training and learning experience in all levels of laboratory medicine, including Hematology, Microbiology and so on.

Students are trained to conduct procedures and tests on specimens from patients such as blood, urine and tissue, and provide reports that help doctors decide on diagnosis and patient treatment.

The three-year programme aims to produce medical laboratory technologists who

are competent, skilful and capable to meet the human capital needs of the country, with career opportunities in numerous industries such as hospitals, clinics, public health laboratories, pharmaceutical or chemical industries, biotechnology companies, veterinary clinics, research laboratories, transplant and blood donor centres and fertility clinics.

At MSU College, students will be exposed to a holistic learning experience, to build soft skills and all the necessary skills that are required for a professional MLT.

The curriculum combines the knowledge of integrated education, health and education science labs.

Upon completion of the diploma, students may proceed to a bachelor's degree programme at Management and Science University (MSU) through the Faculty of Health & Life Sciences (FHLS) or International Medical School (IMS).

Another opportunity for students is the progression to the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme offered through IMS either in the Shah Alam campus or in MSU offshore campus in Bangalore, India.

■ For more details, look out for the advertisement in this *StarSpecial*.

Upskilling for success in university and the marketplace

THE International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP) is renowned globally as the most highly esteemed pre-university programme for students aged 16 to 19. It is also the only curriculum offering the skills students need for the 21st century.

The International School of Penang (Uplands) is proud to be the only school providing this prestigious programme in all of Penang.

The value of the IB DP was confirmed yet again at the World Economic Forum 2020 (WEF).

How do we upskill a billion people by 2030? This question was a focus at the WEF in 2020.

According to WEF 2020, soft skills – leadership, adaptability, how to translate feedback into measurable change – are what make short-term skills training more long-lasting and transformative.

People are looking to leaders to provide a trusted path forward. They need to learn how to lead in fast-changing times, empower people and create a culture of lifelong learning where entrepreneurship will thrive.

Enter the IB DP, the only pre-university programme specifically designed to create the leaders the WEF envisions, with collaboration, innovation, and resilience at its centre and integrated throughout.

First, the Learner Profile is at the centre of the IB DP. Students are internationally minded inquirers, thinkers, risk-takers, and communicators. These attributes of the Learner Profile are synonymous with the "soft skills" the WEF discussed and central to the development of every student in the IB DP.

The IB DP Core is the most unique aspect of the programme, and the one which universities say adds the most value to IB students in their undergraduate studies.

Comprising three components, the Core broadens students' experience and challenges them to apply their knowledge and skills.

In Theory of Knowledge, students explore how we know what we claim to know.

The Extended Essay is an independent



IB DP students are internationally minded inquirers, thinkers, risk-takers, and communicators.

research project, finishing with a 4,000-word paper. In Creativity, Activity, Service, students undertake experiences and a project in those three strands.

Finally, the IB subjects are organised and taught to encourage investigation, synthesis, and personal engagement. Memorisation and formulas play little role in the advanced coursework students undertake.

IB DP students find themselves well ahead of their peers in their first year of university thanks to the depth and breadth of their preparation in six subjects.

"The IB is a 4.0 education in a 1.0 world," says Dr Siva Kumari, the IB's seventh director-general.

"The IB prepares the students to be the creators of the algorithm rather than the consumers of the algorithm."

Do you want to be ready for the dynamic world of the future, poised for success in the global marketplace?

The IB Diploma Programme Scholarship at Uplands will provide up to six students the opportunity to gain these key skills and ensure entrance to their universities of choice. The scholarship application is open now for August 2022 intake.

■ For more information, visit <https://www.uplands.org/scholarships/>



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The road best travelled

AFTER completing Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM), your tertiary education direction will become your next big decision.

The Diploma and Foundation routes are the two most common entry choices into higher education at Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) towards furthering studies in over 200 programmes spanning a wide range of disciplines.

The typical progression will be to undertake a Foundation (one year) or Diploma (two to two and a half years) before transitioning to a Degree programme (three to four years).

On paper, the Foundation seems to have a swifter progression, but Diploma students at TAR UC are eligible for credit transfer up to Year 2 in the relevant Degree programme.

For Tan Yong Xin and Low Tiong Liea, their decisions are based on what is more comfortable and can cater to their individual needs and personal growth.

Like most post-SPM students, Tan was undecided which tertiary education path to take.

The 22-year-old decided to continue with the Foundation in Science at TAR UC, which led him to the Bachelor of Electrical and

Electronics Engineering (Hons) programme.

"Despite the general structure of the Foundation programme, it gave me a solid foundation with extensive basic knowledge and understanding for a seamless transition to Degree level. Plus, the academic staff is always happy to guide us," said Tan.

Low, who is also a Bachelor of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (Hons) student, enrolled in the Diploma of Electronic Engineering programme.

"The knowledge I gained from Diploma acted as a solid base to keep up academically even at Degree level.

"This is also thanks to my lecturers in ensuring no student was left behind academically and their extra effort in making sure we understood the topics. In addition, the credit transfer to Year 2 of the bachelor's degree programme helped me save one year of studies," said Low.

Both Tan and Low agree that TAR UC offers more than just academic qualifications, they insist that their experience so far has many added advantages and values that are "Beyond Education".

"Not only did I gain academic knowledge and potentially a path to a brighter future, I



Although Tan (left) and Low (right) chose different paths when enrolling with TAR UC, their decision to pick the Foundation and Diploma routes respectively was based on individual needs that ended up benefiting their personal growth.

also learned how to make better decisions, self-confidence, and made more friends," Tan shared.

Low added, "TAR UC has exceeded my expectations with its vast and comfortable campus environment. I appreciate the opportunities to participate in events which helped me connect with more peers, develop soft skills, and enhance my personal values and identity – all aspects outside the field of my studies I never thought I would experience during my higher education journey."

■ To find out more about TAR UC's range of Foundation or Diploma programmes for the January and February intake, visit TAR UC's physical Open Day at all campuses nationwide from Jan 7 to 9, 10am to 5pm.

Alternatively, find out more information by visiting www.tarc.edu.my

Prospective students are also encouraged to apply online at www.tarc.edu.my

Attractive scholarships are available on the basis of academic merit and sibling discount for qualified students.

Enticing prospects in healthcare sector

THE needs and demand for digital health are growing exponentially, especially in the face of the ongoing global pandemic.

A career in digital health involves working in a discipline that includes digital care programmes, technologies with health and society to enhance the efficient delivery of healthcare and making medicine more precise and personalised using information and communication technologies to facilitate understanding of health problems and challenges of patients.

A professional in digital health works with patient records and data in a healthcare setting and is often employed by healthcare providers such as clinics and hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, commercial insurance companies, medical device manufacturers and governmental or other policy-focused institutions. A digital health professional can also work in project management, analytical, consulting or support capacities, depending on an organisation's needs.

The main contribution of digital health lies with three main areas of interest – patient-centric, diagnostics-centric and research and development-centric.

Those interested in this career will need a basic degree in Digital Health.

With this in mind, the International Medical University (IMU) will be starting a new programme in 2022 – the Bachelor in Digital Health (Honours) which blends Computing, Data Analytics and Health Sciences. It will make graduates more knowledgeable about healthcare organisations, systems and regulations, and needs and problems.

The Digital Health programme at IMU is the first undergraduate programme in Malaysia and South-East Asia that focuses on digital health. It aims to equip students with an in-depth understanding and know-how of the healthcare field, particularly digital health.

The curriculum provides students the necessary skills and knowledge



The needs and demand for digital health are growing exponentially, especially in the face of the ongoing global pandemic.

to meet industry needs. The programme is embedded with research-led teaching and an up-to-date structure to meet the ever-changing needs of the IT and healthcare industries.

In addition, students have the opportunity to work in a digital health-related company or hospital in their final semester for about 20 weeks as part of industrial training.

"Leveraging on the university teaching staff diversity – including computer science and informatics, biomedical, clinical and health sciences – alongside that of external industrial partners, the Digital Health programme will deliver training across the breadth of computing-related to digital health application such as programming, application development, data analytics including machine learning, artificial intelligence, and digital healthcare ecosystem," said Dr Tan Ee Xion, IMU senior lecturer and programme director of the Digital Health programme.

This three-year programme opens for the first intake in July and September. Those who join in July will start the general studies (MPU) modules followed by the first semester of the Digital Health programme.

The programme is open to students from any discipline with the required pre-university qualifi-

cations together with a credit in Mathematics at SPM level or equivalent. It is also open to diploma holders in any discipline, subject to a rigorous internal assessment process.

After the three-year Digital Health undergraduate programme, students can progress to the Master in Health Informatics and Analytics – a one-year full-time Master programme, which provides the perfect pathway for Digital Health undergraduates who intend to pursue health informatics and analytics.

The students will be more focused on linking and analysing large complex datasets, using techniques that transform medical research and create exciting new commercial opportunities in the healthcare sector.

The commencement of this programme is in July and September each year. If you are interested, make an online application via www.imu.edu.my

If you have just completed your SPM and do not have pre-university qualification, the one-year IMU Foundation in Science (FiS) is the direct route into any of the university's degree programmes.

■ For more information, refer to www.imu.edu.my or email start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.

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KING'S College London is one of the top 10 UK universities in the world and ranked sixth in the UK for the quality and quantity of research activity (2022 QS World University Rankings). As London's most central university, King's has over 33,000 students, 40,000 alumni from over 185 countries including 12 Nobel Prize winners and some 8,500 staff.

King's has four campuses by the River Thames between Westminster and the City of London plus one more in south London. The central location allows students to take full advantage of having a front row seat in one of the world's most connected and dynamic cities. King's has nine faculties, schools and institutes making it one of the largest multi-faculty institutions in the UK.

The latest addition, King's Business School, is now one of the main providers of undergraduate management teaching in London.

King's has a particularly distinguished reputation in the humanities, law, the sciences (including a wide range of health areas such as psychiatry, medicine, dentistry, psychology and forensic science) plus social sciences including management, economics, war studies, law and international relations. It is the largest centre for the education of healthcare professionals in Europe.

For the coming intake in September 2022, international students applying to the Geography BA/BSc course as well as Global Health and Social Medicine BA/BSc course will be eligible for a £9,250 (RM52,468) undergraduate scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded through assessment of academic performance.

Through contact with world-class academics, students will benefit from the collabora-



King's College London's Maughan Library is the largest new university library in the UK.

ative, cross-disciplinary approach that has ensured the research, teaching and learning are globally recognised and respected.

Students will also enjoy the outstanding connections with the city's cultural, political, legal and health institutions, providing opportunities to build networks and develop invaluable skills.

With over 1,800 Malaysian alumni and 355 current Malaysian students across the university's five campuses, it is one of the world's great universities, balancing an outstanding reputation for world-class research and teaching.

For almost 200 years, King's research has been, and continues to be world leading, producing graduates that are some of the most employable in the world.

Learn more about studying at the Kings' College London as it will be participating at AUG Student Services' upcoming Go! Further Studies Education Fair from Jan 9 to 15 at two cities across West Malaysia and one stop for virtual education fair:

- Jan 9 (Sunday), E & O Hotel, Penang, noon to 6pm
- Jan 13 (Thursday), Virtual Education Fair @ ZOOM, noon to 6pm
- Jan 15 (Saturday), KSL Hotel, Johor Baru, noon to 6pm

■ Register for the event now at www.augstudy.com/eventbrite-event/go-further-studies-education-fair-dec21/



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IT is very common for a young child to say, "One day, I am going to be a doctor." Doctors have always been familiar characters in a person's life; at one time or another, we would have had to visit a physician.

It is no wonder today, medicine is still a career of choice for young Malaysians leaving high school.

But in the changing face of the world and community today, the medical profession has evolved from the traditional role of "rescuer from pain" to a partner-personality whom you could work closely with to live healthily.

Qualifying with an MBBS is merely the first step as it is no longer a fixed road of being a practising clinician.

"Students have multiple pathways these days upon qualifying as a doctor," said Manipal University College Malaysia (MUCM) Faculty of Medicine dean Prof Dr Adinegara Lutfi Abas.

"They can choose to remain in practice, to advance into research, go into corporate organisations by becoming a hospital manager or administrator, or occupational health specialist, or choose to serve the community by being in public health."

The practitioner

The world can never have too many physicians. With the growing population, doctor practitioners are still much needed in all sectors of society.

While the hours may seem long and not family-friendly, it boils down to individual choice. As the saying goes, "do what you love, and you never have to work a day in your life".

"Furthermore, medicine is one of the fields which caters for a varied

A dream worth pursuing



Students through the FIS programme are able to strengthen their research skills through POSMED – an activity that includes topic research, poster presentation and prototype creation.

range of interest, in terms of the specialisations that one can opt to go into," Dr Adinegara added.

MUCM hosts workshops for United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE), Professional and Linguistic Assessments Board (PLAB), and various Royal College fellowship and membership exam preparation courses at its Melaka campus.

The researcher

Doctors who are constantly intrigued by how things start, get resolved or how diseases are cured – the pathway to becoming a researcher would be a good choice.

Research work is also more structured today as compared to before, whereby evidence collected is based on a cross-section of causes. With the advent of systematic review, physician research is now part of a larger multidisciplinary team as the study must incorporate a complete, exhaustive summary of current evidence relevant to the subject matter.

The community adviser

If it has always been your dream to treat communities, the role of a doctor as a community adviser by way of being in public health would be the right path for you.



Soon-to-be doctors are regularly tested on various knowledge and skills in a simulation room that creates highly realistic scenarios for procedural training.

Strong love of medicine along with mathematics and statistics are the core in excelling in this pathway.

By being able to read into trends and form analytical solutions, a public health physician would be better able to formulate strategic preventive measures.

Where to complete your MBBS

MUCM, formerly known as Melaka-Manipal Medical College, is one of the top medical schools. Since its inception, over 6,000 medical and some 400 dental surgeons have entered both the Malaysian and overseas international health systems, with many alumni progressing successfully into specialist

careers of their choosing.

As a university college, MUCM's twinning programmes evolved into fully Malaysian home-grown programmes.

Students are guided to find their true paths before graduation as they interact with real lives of doctors, researchers, and public health individuals through its annual postgraduate fair and monthly seminars and exhibitions.

Parents and students are encouraged to visit MUCM and experience life as a future "Manipalite".

■ For more information, call 1700 811 662 or log on to www.manipal.edu.my



Student satisfaction is top priority at MSU, in line with the University's objectives being for the betterment of its students. Employability would be your measure of success, as you hone soft skills around core competencies. Build it at MSU, one of Malaysia's top-ranked and world-ranked for graduate employability.
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Taking on the challenge

TWENTY-NINE students from Management and Science University (MSU) School of Hospitality and Creative Arts (SHCA), including a husband-and-wife pair and two siblings, have done the university proud with their achievements at the recent third Selangor International Culinary Festival (SICF 2021).

Awarded the SICF 2021's Most Outstanding as well as a Gold Medal in the Heritage Cuisine, Nasi Ambeng Platter category is Nursyairin Nadhira Eyzat Mustapha from the Bachelor in Culinary Arts (Hons) programme.

Among the criteria Nursyairin Nadhira was judged on was composition, in which her ingredients and side dishes must be in harmony with the main piece in quantity and colour; creativity against degree of difficulty, where her artistry was weighed along with the effort expended; presentation and portion size; correct preparation, recipe and method; and practical, up-to-date serving.

Three silver and one bronze completed the medal tally for MSU from the Heritage Cuisine Nasi Ambeng Platter category. The silver medallists are Rabi'atul Adawiyah Fauzan and Ainur Afiqah Abd Aziz, also from MSU's Bachelor in Culinary Arts (Hons) programme and their lecturer Aiman Hafiz Jalani.

The bronze was awarded to Jayganes Thanasegaran from MSU's Diploma in Culinary Arts programme.

Another gold medal went to MSU through the Ready-to-Eat (RTE) Meals category, with Mohd Fazreen Hairul Anuar from the Bachelor in Culinary Arts (Hons) programme as the winner. From the same programme comes RTE Meals



MSU students have done the university proud with their achievements.

silver medallist Kang Chai Kiat and bronze medallist Amirul Najhan Norhisham.

Two bronze medals were bagged in the Pastry Artistic Showpiece category through Shafikah Nuriman Md Nazri and Muhammad Salihin Mohd Noor Azmi, respectively from MSU's Bachelor in Patisserie Arts (Hons) and Diploma in Patisserie Arts programmes.

SICF 2021's Pastry Artistic Showpiece category presented four diplomas to MSU – two to Bachelor

in Patisserie Arts (Hons) students Kokila Vani Ravi and Noor Ain Fariza Zainodin, and two to Diploma in Patisserie Arts students Arissa Ruthlene Zawari and Syahira Mohd Abdul Nasir.

One bronze medal from the Pulut Kuning category, through Effazatul Ekma Supanate from the Bachelor in Culinary Arts (Hons) programme.

Pulut Kuning also presented three diplomas to programme lecturer Muhammad Hakim Hamdan as well as Diploma in

Culinary Arts twins Tihana Athilah Rosli and Tihani Aqilah Rosli.

MSU, through the School of Hospitality and Creative Arts (SHCA) complements the needs for highly skilled and expert human capital in the hospitality and tourism industry. The school currently offers bachelor's degree and diploma programmes in Culinary Arts, Patisserie Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Event Management, Outdoor Recreation Management, Spa Management and Airlines Services Management

as well as Fashion Design with Marketing.

As a top university in Malaysia, MSU prioritises student development to enhance graduate employability. With 98.7% of its graduates successfully securing employment within six months of graduation, MSU is ranked by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) as Malaysia's No.1 for graduate employability.

Blending technical vocational education and training (TVET) with traditional academic curricula, MSU enhances competencies with industry internship, community and creative entrepreneurship, as well as global exposure – empowering MSU graduates with the well-roundedness desired and sought after by employers.

Various skills enhancement programmes aimed to improve students' competitiveness are offered. The Graduate Employability Skills (GEms) and Personal Enrichment Competencies (PEC) programme at MSU serves to improve students' soft skills.

In all, as an applied, enterprise, holistic and international university, MSU offers foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and flexible programmes through an entry system that facilitates admission of students from all walks of life, aimed at "Transforming Lives and Enriching Future".

■ For details, look out for the advertisement in this *StarSpecial*.

The International School of Penang (Uplands)

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