

Impressive academic achievements

DATA sets are made up of numbers, often percentages, with a logical limit of 100. It is natural that yearly improvements will decrease or stop altogether – records cannot be broken forever. The laws of nature, physics and human limitation prevent this – most of the time.

In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic compelled schools and colleges all over the world to predict grades for students in the absence of exams and KYUEM students' predicted grades surpassed all previous years' examination grades – a data set that in all probability may never have been repeated.

In 2021, its students achieved KYUEM's best ever A Level grades, it had surely reached a limit. This year 210 graduating students collectively sat for 749 A Levels and the data shown in Figures 1a and 1b show elite student performances and imply grade requirements for top international universities.

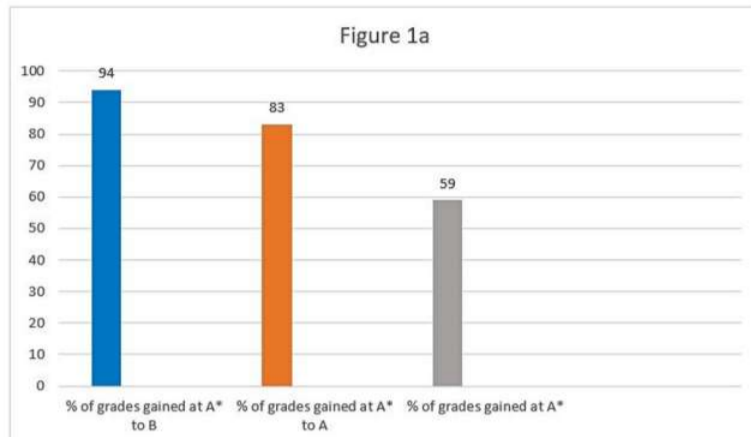
Every year, the same seven critical data sets are compared and published.

In August, KYUEM learnt that its graduating students' full A-Level examination grades exceeded 2021 in all seven categories identified.

In some instances, the differences were very large – 49% A* in 2021 increased to 59% A* grades in 2022; 32% of 2021 graduating students achieved at least 3A* grades, while this year that number increased to 48%.

Six out of seven of its 2022 headline data even surpass the predicted grade data of 2020, previously thought to be an unachievable target.

KYUEM's 2022 CAIE A LEVEL RESULTS



Its record achievements by examination in 2022 are essentially due to six of 11 A-Level subject departments gaining their highest average scores over the past five years, with five of these six subject departments recording over 80% A* or A grades for their students (see Figure 2).

Among 210 of KYUEM's graduating senior students the following data are of interest – three students achieved 5A* or A, 42 achieved 4A*, 89 achieved 4A or better, 57 achieved 3A* and 154 achieved 3A or better.

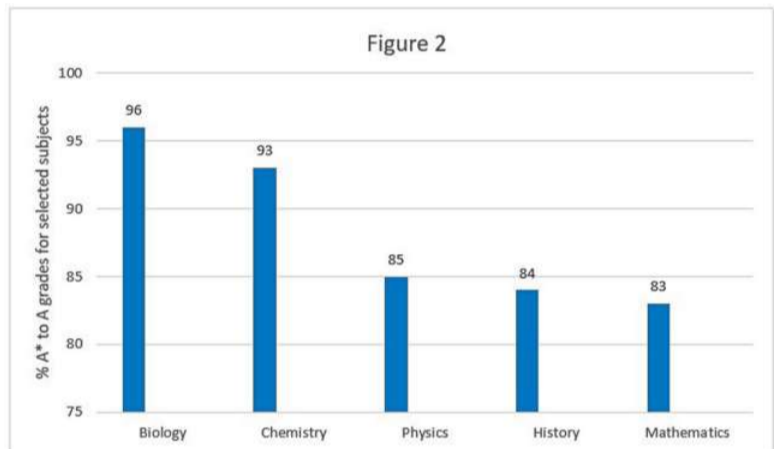
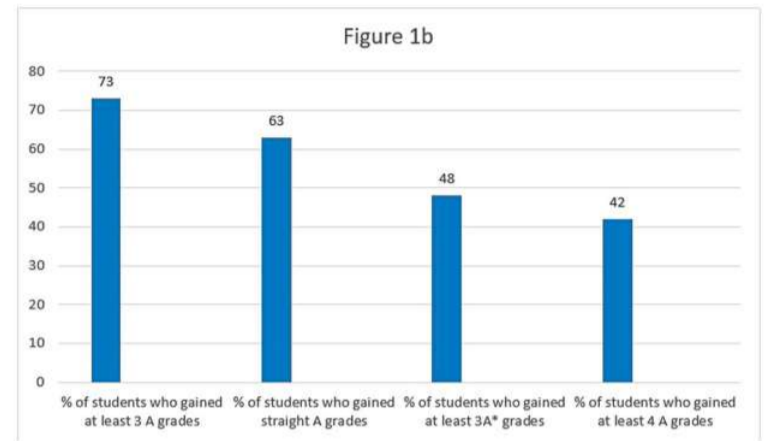
It is important to realise that KYUEM's university placement data are of equal significance in its annual data publication. In 2022, 91.67% of graduating senior students met the requirements of their firm or insurance university conditional offers.

To set this in context, the students usually apply to the top UK universities of the Russell Group.

About 51% will enrol in top London universities (LSE, King's College London, Imperial College London and University College London) and Oxbridge.

The final destinations of all graduating students will not be known until late October.

This year saw the greatest success in American university placements with 16 graduating students selecting the US as their first-choice destination for higher education, including six students studying at Ivy League universities such as Cornell, Columbia, Harvard, Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania. Another eight students will be joining University of California Berkeley or Los Angeles or San Diego while the two remain-



ing students will enrol in Stanford and Johns Hopkins universities.

Seven KYUEM students will enrol at Oxbridge this year – five at the University of Oxford and two at the University of Cambridge.

KYUEM extends sincere congratulations to KYUEM's graduating class of 2022.

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

Head towards a career in nutrition

AN understanding of essential nutrients required by the body is vital to enable the general population to stay healthy, active and fit. If you are interested in educating and promoting a balanced diet and overall health and wellness to the public, then studies in human nutrition at Monash University Malaysia will provide you comprehensive knowledge and skills that tap into the multi-faceted discipline of human nutrition. You will be trained to become a work-ready, competent nutritionist upon completion of the comprehensive three-year programme.

The Bachelor of Human Nutrition programme at the Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences covers the broad scope of food in society, in-depth knowledge of nutritional and biomedical science and links the role of nutrition in health and disease prevention.

The programme will introduce students to the fundamental concepts of food, nutritional and biomedical sciences. The inter-related units will assist students in understanding the human body and subsequently comprehending critical principles in human nutrition and food science.

Students will be able to determine the social and behavioural aspects that affect individuals, communities and populations at large, by considering the broad aspect of religion, culture and political belief within a community from a nutritionist's perspective.

Students will also be exposed to a greater understanding of specific groups' nutritional needs and issues while learning about the roles of nutrition in the context of human health and in disease.



Dr Tan: 'A nutritionist plays an important role in the healthcare field by contributing to a healthier nation.'

During the first two years, students will be taught the scientific basis of nutrient requirements and healthy eating, with significant reference to nutritional physiology, biochemistry and immunology. Their studies will be intertwined with practical elements as well as complex regulatory requirements relating to food and nutrition.

In the final year, students will have the opportunity to undertake nutrition research

"A Bachelor of Human Nutrition degree will prepare graduates to pursue careers in diverse health-related settings."

and obtain work-integrated learning experience.

Students will be learning from and working with professional nutritionists and researchers who specialise in dietary intake and metabolism, public health nutrition, functional foods, sports and exercise nutrition, food science, body composition, hunger and satiety, as well as maternal and child health, as they work on their nutrition research project.

For real-world work experience, students will have a wide selection of placement sites, including public or private community hospitals or clinics, non-governmental organisations, the food industry, sports, fitness and wellness centres, media companies, and healthcare-related corporate companies.

This experiential training would make the students more competent and ready for the future workforce.

"Food is the best medicine – a nutritionist

is a trained healthcare professional who can help the public understand the myths and facts about the various food choices and supplements via interpreting and translating scientific knowledge into practical information. A nutritionist plays an important role in the healthcare field by contributing to a healthier nation," shares programme coordinator and senior lecturer, Dr Tan Seok Shin.

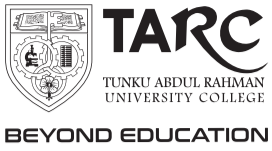
Students can also select elective units from other programmes and schools on and across campuses, giving them a cross-campus and international experience.

The programme has embedded inter-professional (IPL) learning activities where students from the nutrition programme learn together with students from other health professional courses. IPL prepares the graduates to work collaboratively and confidently with members from other healthcare professions in the development of an integrated approach towards disease prevention, contributing to the building of a healthy community and nation.

A Bachelor of Human Nutrition degree will prepare graduates to pursue careers in diverse health-related settings.

With further study, students can pursue a career in the higher education sector and become a nutrition researcher or academic.

■ Do you have a passion for food and nutrition? Find out more about the Bachelor of Human Nutrition programme offered by one of the top-ranking universities at <https://www.monash.edu.my/study/undergraduate/jeffrey-cheah-school-medicine-health-sciences/bachelor-of-human-nutrition>



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Creating the future workforce

UNIVERSITI Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Marine Engineering Technology (UniKL-MIMET) aims to support the university's vision and mission of becoming the premier entrepreneurial technical university and to produce enterprising global technopreneurs by upgrading the skills of Malaysia's workforce and at the same time, generating skilled workers and technopreneurs through its marine and maritime programme.



Graduates from the Bachelor of Maritime Operations (Hons) will have the opportunity to pursue their career in various fields.

The Bachelor of Maritime Operations (Hons) would allow UniKL-MIMET, as a specialist institute for the maritime sector, to achieve the objective of producing graduates to venture into the non-engineering areas of the maritime industry.

Among others, this programme aims at graduating students that would be employable in the maritime industry involving sub-sectors that include shipping management, sea port operations, shipping and forwarding agencies, government law enforcement agencies, shipyard administration and other maritime ancillary services.

In this respect, courses offered in the Bachelor of Maritime Operations programme are grouped into five sub-areas – Maritime and Transport Operations, Business Management, Freight Logistics, Maritime Law and Insurance, as well as Marine Science and Technology. This will enable the various learning outcomes expected from the programme to be successfully achieved.

The development of such a programme

would not be possible without the support from players in the maritime industry. Therefore, an industrial panel is set up to assist UniKL in the development of this programme comprising representatives from seaports, shipping companies, shipyards, government agencies and a senior academician from a reputable university. The aims, objectives and learning outcomes of the programme are continually communicated to the stakeholders through various means such as briefings to students and parents, meetings with industrial panels, briefing to the industry players during industrial training sessions, as well as UniKL and MIMET's website and programme books that are disseminated to all students.

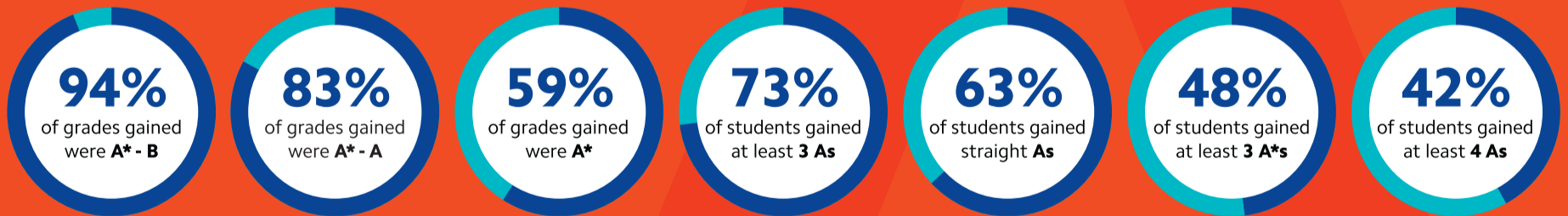
> TURN TO PAGE 4



Cambridge Assessment International Education
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To University and Beyond!

Hats off to our KYUEM students on their outstanding overall performance for 2022 A-Level results.



5 A*s	2 students	3 A*s	57 students
3 A*s, 2 As	1 student	4 As & above	89 students
4 A*s	42 students	3 As & above	154 students



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BSc Real Estate (R/341/6/0042)(07/2025)(MQA/FA7578)

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) (N/380/6/0058)(06/2024)(MQA/FA12029)

BSc Psychology (R/311/6/0074)(07/2025)(MQA/FA6235)

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Celebrating students' success

EARLY next month, Open University Malaysia (OUM) will be celebrating the graduation of more than 5,000 of its learners. The 26th convocation will be held at the World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur from Oct 1 to 4.

Scrolls will be presented to graduates by the Chancellor, Tun Jeanne Abdullah, and the Pro Chancellor, Tan Sri Azman Hashim.

The convocation will bring OUM's cumulative graduates to over 95,000 since its first convocation in 2004.

OUM is a university with a difference. Despite being a private university, it is owned by a consortium of 11 public universities called Meteor Sdn Bhd. And while other universities mainly focused on the conventional mode of face-to-face learning, it practised open and distance learning (ODL), which combined physical classes with online learning, before shifting to fully online classes after Covid-19 struck.

Students attend classes, engage in discussions, submit assignments and sit for exams online, which makes it easy and convenient for them to work and study at the same time.

They could also manage their studies independently through an online learning platform, while receiving guidance and support from the learning centre nearest to them, out of 35 learning centres nationwide.

Says OUM president/vice-chancellor, Datuk Dr Ahmad Izanee

Awang, "With 22 years of experience in ODL, we offer a learner-friendly, flexible and accessible approach to higher education to ensure that anyone can study anywhere and at any time, not just within Malaysia but also across the globe.

"Our programmes are career-relevant, accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency, and recognised by various professional bodies. This does not mean the enrolment process is difficult; even if you think you don't qualify, APEL can open the door for you."

By APEL, he meant the Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning, which enables individuals to gain university admission and obtain credit transfer on the strength of their working experience.

Through APEL A (admission), learners could enrol in bachelor's degree programmes without SPM or diploma qualifications. They could opt for a master's degree if they are 30 or older and have STPM or diploma qualifications.

To shorten their study duration, which will greatly help in reducing costs, they could apply for APEL C (credit award), which will allow them to obtain up to 30% subject exemption.

OUM's graduates come from all walks of life, such as beauty queen and multi-talented artiste Dr Soo Wincci (PhD in Business Administration), actress Vanidah Imran (Bachelor of English Studies), and karate champion



'With 22 years of experience in ODL, we offer a learner-friendly, flexible and accessible approach to higher education,' said Datuk Dr Ahmad Izanee Awang.

Emmanuel Leong (Bachelor of Psychology). With its motto of "University for All", OUM also enables persons with disabilities and senior citizens to pursue higher education by providing them with a 50% discount.

Dr Hazrul Hizam Karim, 47, is one of those who will be graduat-

ing at the coming convocation.

Currently the Environmental, Social and Governance Manager and Organisational Counsellor at an aerospace company in Selangor, he took up the Master of Counselling, received his degree in 2015, and then pursued the PhD (Arts) in Counselling in 2016.

"I found that almost all the subjects I had learnt could be applied at work. In fact, after graduating with my master's, I successfully convinced the top management at my workplace to create a counselling unit. It was set up within just five months.

"My next challenge was to take on the PhD. It was another enriching experience as I presented research papers at symposiums and met counselling experts in Malaysia. In my view, OUM not only provides learning services but also empowers its students to succeed in what they do. I'm now the first counsellor in the aerospace industry in Malaysia."

Experiences such as his boost OUM's resolve to intensify its efforts to make higher education more accessible, available and convenient for more Malaysians. And to have many more convocations to celebrate graduates such as him who have successfully juggled work and study for career progress.

■ For information on OUM programmes, call 03-7801 2000 or e-mail enquiries@oum.edu.my or visit www.oum.edu.my

Pursue a career in various fields

> FROM PAGE 2

The programme's educational objectives are to produce graduates who possess in-depth and comprehensive theoretical and practical knowledge which will contribute towards the maritime industry; possess comprehensive managerial and entrepreneurial skills to perform effectively, ethically and responsibly in different organisations; professionally use a broad range of digital applications and analytical techniques to support business functions; are able to demonstrate teamwork, leadership, interpersonal communication, creativity, and innovation skills and are committed and seek lifelong learning for continuous development.

Graduates will have the opportunity to pursue their career in various fields such as maritime cargo analyst, port operator and management, freight services co-ordinator, sales operation, logistics, maritime-related government agencies and maritime enforcement.

UniKL-MIMET also offers Bachelor of Engineering Technology in Naval Architecture and Shipbuilding, Marine Electrical and Electronics, Marine Engineering and Offshore Engineering programmes.

■ For more information on the September intake, visit www.unikl.edu.my or contact 05-690 9000.



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US university tour returns

THE AEO Tour will be returning to Malaysia with a large group of US universities joining exhibitions in Penang and Kuala Lumpur. The free exhibition in Penang will be held on Sept 25 from 3pm-5pm at the G Hotel Gurney on Level 2. The free exhibition in Kuala Lumpur will be held on Sept 29 from 6pm-9.30pm at the Le Meridien KL Hotel in the Clarke Ballroom, Level 6.

Since 1986, AEO Tour has brought America's top universities to Malaysia. These exhibitions provide the exclusive opportunity to meet with the directors of admissions from numerous universities and colleges throughout the United States.

There is something for everyone – state universities, Catholic universities, Christian universities, private universities, liberal arts colleges and two-year colleges.

Here is the list of participating universities and colleges:

- > Ball State University
- > Messiah University
- > Binghamton University, SUNY
- > Savannah College of Art and Design
- > California Baptist University

- > Stevens Institute of Technology
- > California State University, Chico
- > University of Iowa
- > Drake University
- > University of Maine
- > Edmonds College
- > University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
- > Foothill + De Anza Colleges
- > Washington State University
- > Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
- > West Virginia University
- > Knox College
- > Wichita State University
- > Maryville College
- > Winona State University
- > Merrimack College

Many universities accept students directly after the SPM. Most universities give advanced placement for STPM, A levels, IB or ADP programmes.

The United States combines high-quality education with low cost. The cost of an American edu-



The AEO exhibition is the perfect venue to find the institution that is the right choice for you.

cation is only a fraction of what other countries charge. Study business, engineering or over 500 other majors in the US – the world's No.1 economy. With thousands of American companies in Asia, an American degree would certainly hold more value than any other degree. Currently in Malaysia, over 200,000 Malaysians are directly employed by American companies.

There are now over one million international students studying in the United States. Why do so many students choose to study in the US? Many factors contribute to this but the three most important are:

- > Low cost – some universities are now offering in-state tuition to international students. Most universities will offer scholarships.
- > High quality: US universities

and colleges have an international reputation for quality. State of the art facilities and faculty sourced from throughout the world and endowments of millions or even billions of dollars.

> The diversity of the 4,000 higher education institutions.

Free AEO Tour T-shirts will be given to the first 200 students who attend the exhibition. An AEO Tour Airfare scholarship will also be given away at each exhibition to one student who registers and attends the exhibition. The AEO Tour Airfare Scholarship will cover the airfare costs to the US to the winning student if they get accepted and enrol in one of the participating universities or colleges from the exhibition. This offer does not expire. The winning students will be announced at the end of each exhibition.

■ Students can pre-register today at www.aeotour.com/malaysia

Build a secure footing in science

TUNKU Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) has been offering the Foundation in Science since 2014 via the Centre for Pre-University Studies (CPUS), which has prepared many students well to progress on to science-related bachelor degree programmes in TAR UC.

The programme is specifically structured in two mutually exclusive tracks – Foundation in Science (Track A) emphasises more on physical science while Foundation in Science (Track B) leans towards life science.

Kleven Lim Jin Yew did his Foundation in Science (Track B) and subsequently pursued the Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Sports and Exercise Science.

One very strong reason Lim chose to study at TAR UC is because it is one of the very few institutions in Malaysia offering the Sports and Exercise Science programme and it has a good Foundation programme to prepare him for that.

"The Foundation in Science (Track B) prepared me well with a solid foundation for a smooth transition into my undergraduate programme. To top it off, TAR UC also provided me a generous merit scholarship which was automatically awarded upon enrolment," he said.

"The Foundation programme is great because it focuses on academic knowledge as well as practical hands-on skills. Moreover, the programme allowed me to choose the subjects based on my area of interest by selecting one of the tracks," he said.

With the guidance of his lecturers and hard work, Lim achieved a perfect score of 4.0 CGPA in his Foundation studies.

Even though he spent his time studying to achieve a perfect score, Lim did not forgo extracurricular activities. He was elected to become a committee member of the CPUS Science and Mathematics Society (SMS).

"I decided to try out for a position in SMS because I thought it was a good opportunity to challenge myself and devel-



Lim enjoyed doing his Foundation in Science programme in TAR UC.

op my communication and leadership skills.

"I also wanted to get out of my comfort zone and make as many friends as possible to widen my network. Being a committee member was enjoyable and rewarding," he enthused.

He also represented CPUS in the badminton team. He achieved third placing in the Men's Singles category in the 2018 Inter-faculty Games in TAR UC, and was also part of a team representing TAR UC, who won the second runners-up in the MASISWA President Cup in 2018.

TAR UC offers a variety of Foundation programmes to suit SPM school leavers, preparing them well for tertiary education and beyond.

Apart from the Foundation in Science, TAR UC also offers five other MQA-accredited Foundation programmes – Foundation in Arts, Foundation in Engineering, Foundation in Accounting, Foundation in Business and Foundation in Computing.

■ To find out more about the Foundation programmes, intakes or other general enquiries about TAR UC, visit www.tarc.edu.my. Attractive scholarships are also available at TAR UC based on academic merit and sibling discount for qualified students.



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Daring to dream

WHEN Malaysia was formed on Sept 16, 1963, three stripes were added to the Jalur Gemilang (at the time, Bendera Malaysia) as well as three more points to the Malaysian flag's 11-point star; both to signify the addition of Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore.

The fourteenth stripe and point, which remained upon Singapore's leaving on Aug 9, 1965, eventually came to be associated with Malaysia's federal territories of Kuala Lumpur, Labuan, and Putrajaya.

Four years ago on the Malaysia Day of 2018, against the backdrop of Australia's Sydney Opera House, Jalur Gemilang sprinted to a Guinness World Record (GWR) – figuratively, on the back of Yayasan MSU scholar Mohd Syahidan Alias.

The citizen runner currently undertaking Bachelor in Education (Physical Education and Health) (Hons) studies via the Micro-Credential programme at the Management and Science University (MSU) School of Education and Social Sciences (SESS) clocked two hours, 54 minutes, 34 seconds to set the GWR for the Fastest Full Marathon Dressed in National Flag Costume at the Blackmores Running Festival in Sydney. Shattering a previous record of three hours 29 minutes, this was one of four feats that included a costume – the other three record setters were dressed as a surfer, a French maid, and a monk.

Describing himself as a citizen runner because he is a working adult with a passion for running, Mohd Syahidan is professionally as well as popularly and affectionately called Edan Syah. Born in Terengganu but raised in Selangor, Edan started running on

his own and at a later age. Growing up with both his parents as school teachers, Edan had otherwise never had sports as his natural environment or a career option. Yet the regular guy with a day job as Coach at Smart Athletics Club (SAC), who had self-trained to save on coaching fees, went on to make a name in the arena.

“Dreams are good only if you commit to them. I dared to dream because I dared to work towards them. There is no shortcut to excellence; hard work beats talent. With discipline and time management, have faith that the magic will happen.”

Ever since Edan began running full marathons in 2011, he has been travelling the world for nearly 10 years now with the support of sponsors.

He went to the Abbott World Marathon Majors with a goal of clocking below the three-hour mark, and finished all six (Berlin Marathon, Boston Marathon twice, Chicago Marathon, London Marathon, New York Marathon, and Tokyo Marathon) in four years. He even finished his first Boston Marathon in 2015 as the youngest and fastest Malaysian marathoner. In 2016, Edan was honoured with “Malaysia's Top Marathoner”, and became the first independent Malaysian marathoner to qualify for the SEA Games Marathon 2017 on merit as well as selected for the National Kita Juara Program at the age of 30.

On his maiden ultramarathon in 2018, at the Great Ocean Road Running Festival (GORRF) of Apollo Bay, Australia, representing Malaysia with the support of Visit Victoria, Edan emerged the Men Open



Syahidan (left) with Prof Tan Sri Dr Mohd Shukri.

Champion and set a new record with his four hours 29 minutes – the best performance by an Asian against the event's 60km distance. And all that he had set out to do was only to complete the distance.

Inspired by Japanese citizen runner Yuki Kawauchi – the Boston Marathon 2018's Men's Champion – Edan has completed 33 full marathons to date and records a personal best of two hours 30 minutes; which he achieved at the Gold Coast Australia Marathon in 2017.

“I would like to thank MSU president Professor Tan Sri Datuk Wira Dr Mohd Shukri Ab Yajid for his trust and confidence in me to pursue my higher education with the support of Yayasan MSU. I had never expected to return to university at the age of 35.

“It was challenging at first to juggle classes, assignments, projects, exams and presentations with my current coaching job, while also working at improving my running fitness for future marathons. Yet, I've had a fantastic time working with my classmates over the past six months, and I'm surprised that I've been able to balance my studies and obtain decent grades in my first semester.”

Because the best kind of learning does not train you to win but instead teaches you what winning might mean – build your capacity to act, for example – Edan keeps

running not only towards his dreams but also towards where he can help.

“Physical education has become even more vital and critical for society, what with the recent Covid-19 pandemic. We are built to move, and many of our body's systems perform better when we exercise regularly. I want to inspire and assist future generations in improving personal health through physical education. Eventually, I'd like for everyone to learn to run smart, but my current mission is to encourage everyone to stay active through physical activity. I hope more school athletes and fitness enthusiasts will join me on the Bachelor in Education (Physical Education and Health) (Hons) programme under the School of Education and Social Sciences at MSU, and become transformational leaders educating society about health and physical education.”

Edan is the Head Coach responsible for bringing MSU its first athletics medal via the 3,000km Steeplechase event of SUKIPT 2022. He was a key facilitator/participant in the MSU Malaysia Book of Record ‘The Longest Non-Stop Baton Relay Run’ (168 hours; 2,352km; 7 days, 2 nights) in conjunction with MSU's AIDS Awareness Campaign of 2009. He also led flag bearers comprising medallists of SUKIPT 2022 into the MSU Chancellor Hall at the closing ceremony of MSU MyDay and Merdeka celebration.



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