Creative arts shine on the stage

THE Performing Arts and Cultural Club (PACC) of Management and Science University (MSU) emerged as first runner-up and clinched the best costume award in the private university category at the Festival of Colours of the World (Fesco) 2025.

An annual dance festival celebrating cultural heritage and performing arts, Fesco is a student-led initiative spearheaded by Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS.

In its 16th edition held on June 21, Fesco 2025 featured four competition categories: primary schools, secondary schools, public higher education institutions and private higher education institutions.

With the theme "Medley of New Creation Malay Social Dance", a total of 12 MSUrians from PACC represented MSU.

They were Muhammad Azrai Mohd Shamsol Bahri, Bachelor in Creative Multimedia (Hons); Shaffiq Danish Abdullah, Diploma in Education – TESL; Nur Khalieshah Muhammad Shah, Bachelor of Education (Hons) – (TESL); Shah Ammar Nazhan Shahrul Rizal, Diploma in Music Technology; Aida Qistina Uzma Mohd Yusoff, Bachelor in Event Management (Hons); Muhammad Rafiqin Roslan, Bachelor in Fashion Design with Marketing (Hons) ; Nur Shahira Yahya, Diploma in Accounting; Mohamed Faris Mohd Rabeek, Bachelor in Economics and Finance (Honours); Nur Aiman Faisal Norrolaiz, Diploma in Management; Nur Arrissa Najwa Ishak, Diploma in Medical Science and Health; Tasha Luxmee Ramanathan, Bachelor in Cardiovascular Technology (Hons); and Siti Nur Erina Murat, Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons).

MSU's PACC team celebrating its first runner-up and best costume victory in the private university category at Fesco 2025.

In addition to trophies, the team won RM2,000 and RM500 for securing first runner-up and Best Costume, respectively. The MSU PACC had previously been named champion and recipient of the Best Costume and Best Choreography awards in the private university category at Fesco 2023, a testament to its continued excellence in the performing arts. PACC is one of nine clubs and associations within the Arts and Culture cluster, accessible to MSUrians under the guidance of the Students and Career Development department.

Recognised as one of the top universities in Malaysia and globally, MSU places strong emphasis on student development to boost graduate employability.

By integrating technical and vocational education and training (TVET) with traditional academic programmes, MSU builds key competencies through industry internships, community and creative entrepreneurship and global exposure – empowering graduates with the well-rounded qualities sought by employers.

Furthermore, various skills enhancement programmes aimed at improving students' competitiveness are offered. The Graduate Employability Skills (GEmS) and Personal Enrichment Competencies (PEC) programmes at MSU are designed to strengthen students' soft skills.

MSU is listed among the top universities in the world by QS, including a ranking of 580th in the QS World University Rankings 2025. It is also placed in the QS Top 100 for the world's best young universities, ranked 129th among Asia's best universities, 28th in South-East Asia and within the QS Top 301+ for Graduate Employability.

In its inaugural appearance in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2025, MSU earned a prestigious placement in the 801–1,000 band, marking its entry into the ranks of the top 1,000 universities worldwide.

Highlighting its growing regional influence, MSU is placed in the 401–500 band of the THE Asia University Rankings 2025, ranking among the top 19 universities in South-East Asia and top 16 in Malaysia.

As an applied, enterprise-focused, holistic, and international university, MSU offers foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and flexible programmes through an entry system that facilitates the admission of students from all walks of life, with the aim of transforming lives and enriching the future.

■ For the full range of MSU's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, contact 03-5521 6868 or email info@msu.edu.my. Additional information is also available at *www.msu.edu.my*

Global pathways in medical research

IF you have ever dreamed of being part of the next big medical breakthrough, Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia's (NUMed) BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programme is your ideal launchpad.

The programme offers students a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of medical advancements through innovative learning tools and access to cutting-edge research.

Virtual platforms like Labster and LearnSci Lab allow students to conduct experiments in a safe, simulated environment.

They also gain hands-on experience with bioinformatics and statistical tools such as BLAST, SPSS, MATLAB and R.

"We incorporate 3D visualisation tools like Chimera and the Complete Anatomy app, which are essential for exploring molecular structures and biological processes," said NUMed's Biomedical Sciences dean Assoc Prof Dr Madihah Rushaidhi.

"Meanwhile, access to key research databases such as PubMed, Scopus and Web of Science is invaluable for literature reviews and research projects."

As the international branch campus of Newcastle University, UK, NUMed leverages the institution's reputation for research excellence – benefiting from state-of-the-art facilities and collaborative projects with top-tier institutions worldwide.

NUMed students using advanced virtual platforms along with 3D visualisation tools to simulate experiments and explore molecular biology in depth.

One of the programme's standout features is that Biomedical Sciences students spend their final academic year in the UK, allowing them to immerse themselves in a new culture, build a global network and gain hands-on experience in world-class laboratories.

This international exposure broadens their perspective on global healthcare systems, positioning them as leaders in biomedical sciences.

■ Want to learn more? Explore NUMed's Biomedical Sciences programme and other offerings at *www.newcastle.edu.my*, email admissions@newcastle.edu.my, call 07-555 3800 or WhatsApp 011-1231 5411/012-784 9456.

You can also join NUMed's Open Day on Aug 16 – register now at *ncl.ac.uk/numed/study-with-us/get-to-know-us/open-days/*

Writing well through group projects

WRITING may look simple on the surface, but it's actually a complex skill. In school, we spend years churning out essays on history, science and literature.

Yet despite all that practice, studies, teachers and employers in the US, UK and even Malaysia still say the same thing – many young adults entering college or the workforce struggle to write well.

So, how do you build the habit of writing well? One effective approach is through collaborative writing projects.

Research shows that when young people team up to work on a piece of writing, they naturally sharpen their skills – learning from each other, exchanging ideas and improving together in the process.

University students have said that collaborative writing offers four key benefits:

1) Reducing workload by dividing tasks

2) Enhancing understanding through a combined effort

3) Leveraging each other's expertise to produce the best outcome

4) Developing new skills for both the current and future group projects

University students often face stress from project grading, particularly when team members have varying skill levels. To alleviate this pressure, high school students might benefit from group assignments that are assessed for learning purposes but do not impact their final grades.

Bridging medicine and tech

IN an era where artificial intelligence (AI) diagnoses diseases faster than seasoned doctors and digital health records save lives across continents, the future of healthcare lies at the intersection of medicine and technology.

RUMC (RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus) is introducing Malaysia's pioneering Bachelor of Science in Medical Informatics – a groundbreaking programme designed to create the next generation of healthcare technology leaders.

RUMC's pioneering Bachelor of Science in Medical Informatics blends cutting-edge technology with modern healthcare.

The need for medical informatics

"Healthcare informatics is no longer a luxury – it's a necessity," shared Dr Hanis Hasri, the Health Ministry's health informatician and senior principal assistant director.

Speaking at RUMC's recent industry panel, she emphasised how the Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the critical need for healthcare professionals who understand both medicine and technology.

"This is about improving the entire healthcare system – from patient care to resource allocation," she explained.

Malaysia's healthcare digitalisation initiative targets a "one citizen, one record" system nationwide, requiring thousands of skilled medical informatics professionals.

Real career opportunities

Industry leaders are unanimous: medical informatics graduates are among the most sought-after professionals today.

G. Saravanan, Thomson Hospital Damansara group chief information officer, put it bluntly: "If you work in a hospital, you'll be using hospital information systems, electronic medical records, laboratory information systems and radiology information systems.

"These complex systems demand professionals with specialised qualifications, which are rarely found in today's workforce, forcing most to learn on the job."

The career possibilities are vast. Graduates can become medical informatics specialists designing next-generation healthcare systems, health data analysts turning medical big data into life-saving insights or digital health consultants optimising hospital workflows and patient care.

Where innovation meets excellence

RUMC's Medical Informatics programme stands out for its unique blend of academic excellence and industry relevance.

> **Strategic location:** Based in Penang, Malaysia's thriving MedTech hub, offering direct access to leading healthcare technology companies and research facilities

> **World-class faculty:** Led by Prof Emeritus Sureswaran Ramadass, a globally recognised expert in next-generation Internet technologies

> **Industry integration:** Partnerships with hospitals, tech companies and government agencies providing real-world internship and placement opportunities

> **Cutting-edge curriculum:** Comprehensive coverage from AI in healthcare to medical IoT, cybersecurity and precision medicine

Transforming healthcare

Whether your passion lies in coding, healthcare, data analysis or system design, medical informatics offers a rewarding career path.

RUMC is offering exclusive bursaries for students:

> The first 10 successfully enrolled students will receive a 20% bursary on their first year's fees.

> The next five successful students can choose between a MacBook Air or a RM5,000 bursary.

Additional financial assistance may also be available.

■ Aspiring students can speak to a RUMC education counsellor via the RUMC website at www.rumc.edu.my. For enquiries, contact enquiry@rumc.edu.my or call 04-217 1999.

Perks of learning a new language

DID you know that learning a foreign language can boost your brain in terms of problem-solving abilities and creativity? It has many useful effects, including these three vital areas that will help boost your personal success.

Gives you a new perspective

Learning a language isn't just about translating. In English, we refer to people as "he" or "she" while objects are "it." In Malay, "dia" can mean all three. In German, frau ("woman") is feminine, mann ("man") is masculine, but mädchen ("girl") is neutral.

One knock-on effect is that training your mind to think in new ways can boost creativity and enhance problem-solving skills.

Better multi-cultural skills

As language mirrors the culture of the people who created it, learning one gives you insight into how other communities think.

This process also deepens your understanding of your own culture and offers alternative perspectives on the world. This cross-cultural awareness can enhance your career prospects.

Boosts character

We tend to forget how much we struggled as tiny tots to make others understand us. Learning a foreign language is like being a kid again. Not only does this help build character, but it also makes you a more effective and creative communicator.

Unlock a future in design

GRAPHIC design is the art and practice of planning and projecting ideas and experiences using visual and textual content.

In other words, graphic design conveys ideas and messages visually.

These visuals can be artistic advertisements, eye-catching graphics on websites or beautifully arranged spreads in magazines.

Graphic design is one of the fastest-growing creative disciplines and is consistently in high demand.

Recognising the potential of this field, Management and Science University (MSU) College's School of Science and Technology offers the Diploma in Graphic Design.

In this programme, students will develop creative skills to become the next generation of highly skilled, creative and innovative professionals.

The programme is designed to provide the necessary skills for acquiring knowledge, conducting research and designing solutions for industry-related projects.

It includes a variety of subjects specifically chosen to prepare students to be industry-ready graduates excelling in skills such as visual communication, typography, communication, advertising design and interactive multimedia.

Those who complete the programme will be able to work as technical illustrators, layout artists, creative directors or graphic designers in various commercial positions in both print and digital media.

Their job scopes may include or be related to advertising and promotion, art direction, branding, corporate identity, instructional design, packaging, signage, mobile applications, software interfaces and website layouts.

This two-and-a-half-year programme requires a pass in SPM, or its equivalent, with three credits in any subject, or an MSU College certificate in a relevant field with passes in all subjects.

Upon completing the diploma, credit transfer is also available to those pursuing a second-year bachelor's degree programme at MSU through the Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering.

MSU College is also an MSU APEL Centre for potential candidates to take the APEL Aptitude Test as a non-conventional pre-qualification for entry into higher studies, in which MSU currently offers APEL A and APEL C at T-3 (certificate), T-6 (bachelor's degree) and T-7 (master's degree) levels.

■ For more details on the programmes offered, call 06-764 8686 or 03-5521 6868, email enquiry@msucollege.my or visit *www.msucollege.edu.my*

MSU College's Diploma in Graphic Design explores the world of visual creativity, preparing students to become the next generation of highly skilled, creative and innovative professionals.

Spacing out study sessions

IMAGINE you need to memorise 20 pairs of words, such as "effulgent" or "brilliant", written on flashcards. You have four days to study them and on the fifth day, you'll be tested.

With cramming, we expect to forget. But how often have you gone through new material in class, felt like you understood it, only to find yourself struggling to recall it a week later?

In a study comparing the two methods, participants who tackled the large stack and reviewed a card four times with a one-day gap between each session retained 49% of the words. Meanwhile, those who used a cramming approach recalled 36%.

The key takeaway is that the most effective learning method is to observe, step away, revisit and repeat the process.

Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia

Tomorrow's Doctors Start Here. Explore our Open Day.

Discover what it's like to study medicine and biomedical sciences through subject sessions, student-led campus tours, and meet-and-greets with our community.

Saturday, 16th August 2025
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Tuition fee waiver up to RM 1,500*

Book your open day place

Contact Us

www.newcastle.edu.my
+607 555 3800
admissions@newcastle.edu.my

Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia
No. 1, Jalan Sarjana 1, Kota Ilmu,
EduCity@Iskandar
79200 Iskandar Puteri, Johor

NUMed Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. | Reg. No.: 200701034062 (792091-W) DULN005(J)

IMU University enters a new chapter where we go beyond medical and health sciences into the realms of business, technology and social sciences to shape tomorrow's global leaders. Unlock your potential with us today.

Step into the future
fuelled by our One Health vision

IMU UNIVERSITY

Centre for Pre-University Studies

Foundation in Arts (NEW)
KPT/JPT(N/0011/3/0128)03/2029
MQA/PSA17403
APR . JUL . SEP

Foundation in Science
KPT/JPT(R2/010/3/0186)09/2028
MQA/FA3974
APR . JUL . SEP

School of Alternative and Complementary Medicine

Bachelor of Chinese Medicine (Honours)
KPT/JPT(R2/0917/6/0011)01/2027
MQA/A10260
FEB . APR . JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Chiropractic
KPT/JPT(R/726/6/0054)08/2026
MQA/A9294
APR . SEP

School of Business and Technology

Bachelor of Business Administration with Healthcare Management (Honours) (NEW)
KPT/JPT(N/0414/6/0180)01/2029
MQA/PSA17191
FEB . APR . JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) (NEW)
KPT/JPT(N/0414/6/0364)05/2030
MQA/PSA18402
SEP

Bachelor in Digital Health (Hons)
KPT/JPT(N/482/6/0209)03/2028
MQA/PSA14380
FEB . APR . JUL . SEP

School of Dentistry

Bachelor of Dental Surgery
KPT/JPT(R3/724/6/0010)01/2030
MQA/FA7026
FEB . SEP

School of Health Sciences

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Biomedical Science
KPT/JPT(R3/421/6/0011)12/2027
MQA/A8230
JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Dietetics with Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R2/726/6/0021)09/2029
MQA/A8176
JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Applied Sciences (Hons) in Medical Biotechnology
KPT/JPT(R2/545/6/0014)09/2027
MQA/A8228
JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Nursing (Hons)
KPT/JPT(R2/0913/6/0017)10/2027
MQA/FA8944
SEP

Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) #*
KPT/JPT(N-DL/0913/6/0001)09/2029
MQA/PA14397
APR . SEP
* For registered nurses only
# Available in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R2/726/6/0011)06/2027
MQA/FA1298
JUL . SEP

School of Medicine

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)
KPT/JPT(R2/721/6/0033)09/2026
MQA/FA6155
FEB . SEP

School of Pharmacy

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Pharmaceutical Chemistry
KPT/JPT(R3/442/6/0003)01/2028
MQA/A8229
FEB . APR . JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours)
KPT/JPT(R2/727/6/0050)09/2026
MQA/FA8374
JUL . SEP

School of Psychology and Social Sciences

Bachelor of Communication with Health (Honours) (NEW)
KPT/JPT(N/0323/6/0056)07/2029
MQA/PSA17573
FEB . APR . JUL . SEP

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Psychology
KPT/JPT(R3/311/6/0013)09/2027
MQA/A8177
FEB . APR . JUL . SEP

School of Veterinary Medicine

Bachelor of Science in Bioveterinary Science (Honours) (NEW)
KPT/JPT(N/0841/6/0001)07/2029
MQA/PSA17574
OCT

IMU UNIVERSITY (Formerly known as International Medical University)
DU006W

IMU Bukit Jalil Main Campus
126, Jalan Jalil Perkasa 19, Bukit Jalil,
57000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
+603 8656 7228 (Main)

IMU Technology Park Campus (New)
Lot 6, Jalan Inovasi 1, Taman Teknologi MRANTI,
Bukit Jalil, 57000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2022 SETARA COMPETITIVE

+603-2727 7515 (Enquiry)
start@imu.edu.my
www.imu.edu.my

Health studies go global

IMU transforms classroom learning into real-world experiences that empower future healthcare leaders. In line with this commitment, students from the MBA in Healthcare Management (MBAHM) programme under the School of Business and Technology (SOBT) had the unique opportunity to participate in a fully sponsored overseas immersion programme.

With the first two immersive programmes held in India and Thailand, these global learning journeys provided students with valuable insights into international healthcare systems, strengthened their leadership capabilities and allowed them to immerse themselves in diverse cultural settings.

Students visited notable institutions such as DentCare Dental Labs Pvt Ltd during their study tour in Kerala, India.

A blend of tradition, innovation and leadership

The first overseas immersion took students to the scenic state of Kerala, India, where they participated in a dynamic leadership workshop at the Santhigiri Institute of Management.

During this enriching study tour, they explored Ayurvedic medicine and visited prominent institutions such as New Care, DentCare Dental Labs Pvt Ltd – Asia's largest dental laboratory – and Rajagiri Hospital, known for its forward-thinking healthcare services.

Cultural exploration was equally integral to the experience. Students enjoyed boating and kayaking at Bhoothathankettu, visited the Ayurvedic Research Centre and admired the stunning landscapes of Munnar.

The journey concluded with unforgettable visits to Varkala Beach and the iconic Jadayupara.

Medical and healthcare leadership

The second international immersion was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from Dec 11 to 14 last year as part of the broader MBAHM second Immersion and Hospital Management Leadership Programme, organised in collaboration with Commellow Project Co Ltd, Thailand.

Through pre-immersion preparation, intensive engagement during the immersion and post-immersion reflection, students bridged theoretical knowledge with practical exposure to Thailand's advanced healthcare system.

Collaborations with top-tier institutions such as the Public Health Ministry, Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, Chulabhorn Royal Academy, and Chulabhorn Hospital enabled participants to explore topics like the Thailand Medical Hub Strategy, pandemic management, the Hospital Act B.E. 2541 and wellness integration.

Participants also had the opportunity to meet healthcare leaders and policymakers, gaining insights into hospital management, digital healthcare transformation and strategic leadership.

Cultural exploration included visits to Museum Siam and the Vichit Chaopraya Festival, offering a glimpse into Thailand's rich cultural heritage.

These two international immersion programmes are a testament to IMU's holistic approach to education – where academic excellence, leadership development and global exposure intersect.

At IMU, the MBA in Healthcare Management programme aims to equip managers with relevant skills for leading and managing the various facets and challenges that confront professionals, managers and those keen to manage the healthcare industry.

The programmes offer full-time, accelerated, modular and blended learning with part-time options available for those requiring more time.

The next commencement of this programme is in September 2025. Those interested to join can apply online today.

■ For details, visit *www.imu.edu.my* or email start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.

Honing practical leadership skills

MANY graduates often find themselves lacking in people management skills upon completion of their studies.

While educational institutions offer valuable insight into management philosophy, it's incomparable to hands-on experience. Here are some ways to enhance your people management skills, regardless of your field.

Organise a karaoke song quartet

It doesn't matter what you sing together. The main thing is to set a time frame that includes picking the song, practising the singing, getting everyone on the same page and trying it out in public.

Run a charity stall

Finding a charity, deciding what to sell, getting your team together and doing promotion, sales and accounts is the perfect rehearsal for a full-time job. This is challenging, so help someone else before trying this yourself.

Set up a sports team

Gather like-minded people into a team and train for an event. A charity competition is fun, or you could compete in a school event. As a leader, you need to organise training, help people overcome obstacles, pick mini teams, etc. All these will help to chalk up your people management skills.