Boosting emergency care skills

THE IMU Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) programme, offered via Open and Distance Learning (ODL), includes an elective nursing clinical practice module in the 10th and final semester.

As part of this module, three students from cohort NUODL223 were given the chance to undergo a 14-day clinical placement at the Coronary Care Unit (CCU) and the Accident and Emergency Department (ED) of Hospital Tuanku Ja'afar Seremban.

The placement fulfilled their required clinical attachment hours, and they were guided by an IMU-assigned clinical instructor and nursing lecturer.

The placement also provided the students with exposure to contemporary critical care and emergency nursing practices.

It enabled the students to bridge theoretical knowledge acquired through online learning with real-life clinical situations, thereby strengthening their technical competencies and professional confidence in managing high-acuity patients.

The clinical placement offered the ODL nursing students invaluable exposure to critical care and emergency nursing practices.

Nursing ODL student Ho Kit Yeng said, "I learned a great deal during this clinical posting. I feel especially fortunate to have been placed at Hospital Tuanku Ja'afar Seremban, where I had the opportunity to care for critically ill patients in both the ED and CCU.

"It was completely different from my usual work in general wards, as I was exposed to high-acuity cases and fast-paced decision-making environments. Being able to actively participate and engage hands-on during such life-threatening situations was deeply educational."

She shared that participating in trauma cases and caring for ventilated patients strengthened her clinical skills and ability to perform under pressure.

Similarly, fellow NUODL223 student Norzuraida Hashim said the posting broadened her understanding of the workflow and clinical priorities within the CCU and ED settings.

"As I have worked mainly in the general ward for years, I have not really been able to observe the workflow in the CCU or ED.

"I gained a much deeper understanding of how both units operate, particularly the fast-paced environment, critical decision-making processes and differing priorities compared to general ward care. The experience significantly broadened my perspective as a nurse."

She also appreciated the opportunity to revise important clinical knowledge before getting hands-on experience and work collaboratively with supportive healthcare teams.

Fellow NUODL223 student Phong Fu Zheng said, "This posting was a very valuable exposure. I was able to observe the differences between government and private hospital settings, while gaining a better understanding of how the CCU and ED differ from the ward environment.

"I gained a better understanding of the fast-paced critical care and ED environment, where nurses are required to think critically, respond quickly and work closely as a team during emergency situations."

At IMU University, the Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) (Open and Distance Learning) programme is designed specifically for working nurses seeking academic advancement without sacrificing their professional commitments, and allowing registered nurses to upgrade their diploma to a bachelor's degree through a three-and-a-half-year online learning model.

The next commencement of this programme is in September. Those interested in enrolling can make an online application today.

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

Green leaders of tomorrow

AS industries evolve and sustainability takes centre stage, postgraduate education is no longer optional. It is a strategic step for those ready to lead change.

At Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) empowers future leaders with the knowledge, skills and mindset to shape a smarter and more sustainable world. The faculty offers a dynamic portfolio of postgraduate programmes designed for ambitious individuals who want to go further.

From the Doctor of Philosophy (Engineering) and Master of Engineering Science to specialised programmes such as the Master of Engineering in Electronic Systems, Master of Environmental Technology and Master of Sustainable Construction Management, each pathway is crafted to meet real industry demands while addressing global sustainability challenges.

Innovation sits at the heart of the FEGT experience. The Master of Engineering Science and PhD (Engineering) programmes immerse students in advanced research, encouraging them to explore new ideas, develop impactful solutions and contribute to technological progress.

With strong academic mentorship and access to well-equipped research facilities, graduates are well prepared for careers in research and development, academia and leadership roles across industries.

For those driven by environmental impact, the Master of Environmental Technology offers hands-on exposure to key areas such as waste management, pollution control and environmental policy. Students gain not only technical expertise but also the ability to think holistically and solve complex sustainability challenges.

The UTAR FEGT team celebrating a multiple-medal haul at iCompEx'25.

Complementing these are the Master of Engineering in Electronic Systems and Master of Sustainable Construction Management programmes, which integrate smart technologies, digital innovation and sustainable practices. These programmes equip graduates with future-ready skills to thrive in a fast-changing, tech-driven landscape.

Beyond academics, FEGT stands out for its strong track record in research excellence and innovation. In 2025, its academics and students secured 13 medals, including four gold awards, at the International Innovation and Invention Competition through Exhibition (iCompEx'25), highlighting the faculty's strength in applied research and creativity.

FEGT researchers are also internationally recognised, with several listed among the world's top 2% scientists. The faculty has also earned top honours at the Asean Green Award and continues to shine at platforms such as the Malaysia Technology Expo SDG Awards.

FEGT dean Prof Dr Ng Choon Aun said, "Our postgraduate programmes are designed not only to advance knowledge but also to nurture innovators and leaders who can address real-world challenges. We aim to empower our students to create sustainable solutions that benefit society and the environment."

Selected programmes incorporate a Work-Based Learning approach, allowing students, especially working professionals, to apply what they learn directly in real workplace settings.

For those ready to elevate their careers and make a meaningful difference, UTAR FEGT offers more than a degree. It offers a platform to turn ambition into action and drive sustainable change for a better future.

■ For details, go to *www.utar.edu.my* or call 05-468 8888 (Kampar campus) or 03-9086 0288 (Sungai Long campus). Visitors can walk in or call for any enquiries on weekdays from 9am to 5pm (closed on public holidays).

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.

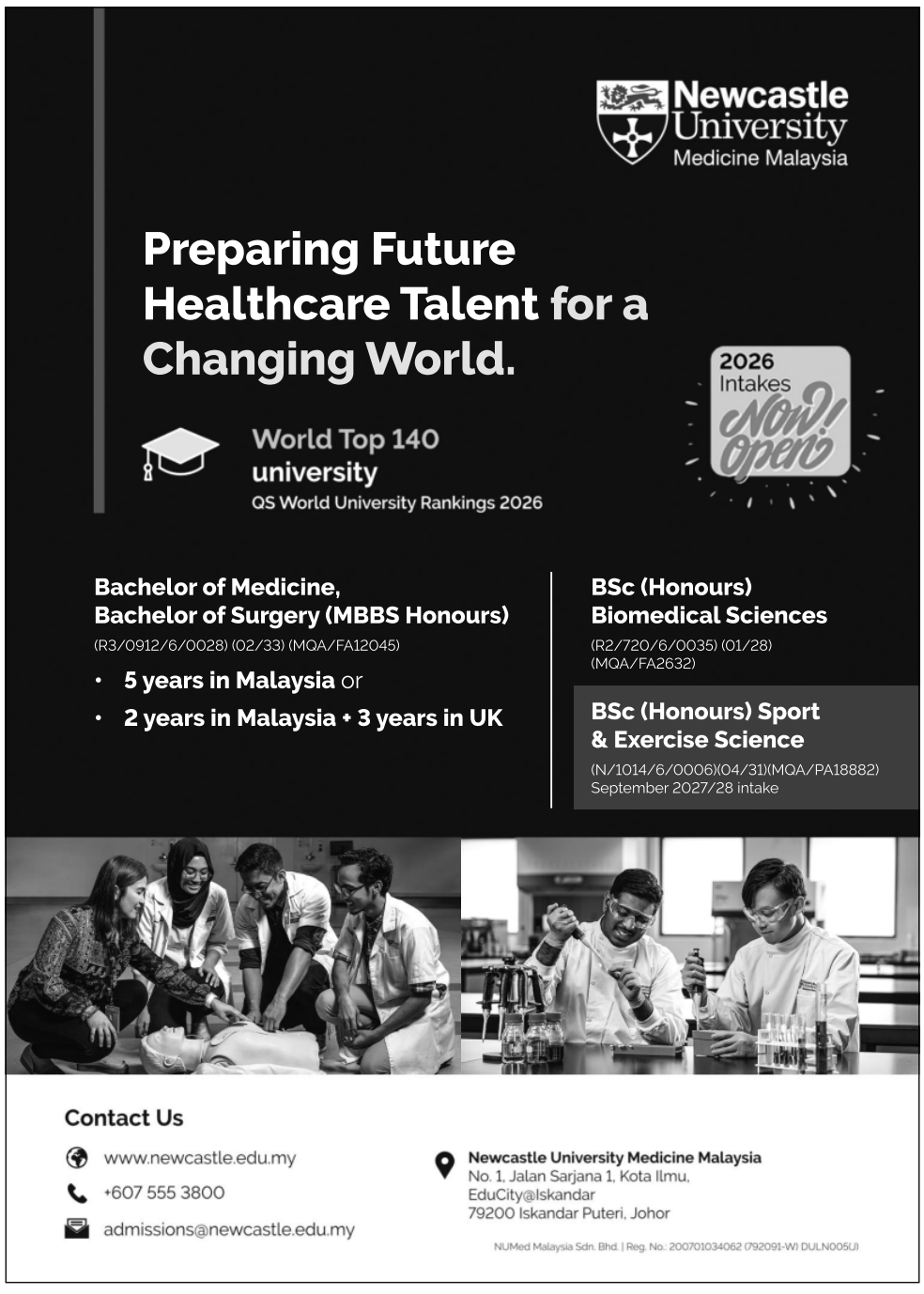
One knock-on effect is that training your mind to think in new ways can boost creativity and enhance problem-solving skills.

Better multi-cultural skills

As language mirrors the culture of the people who created it, learning one gives insight into how other communities think. It also deepens your understanding of your own culture and offers alternative perspectives on the world. This cross-cultural awareness can enhance 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.



Driving lasting community impact

MSU's HopeBeat is strategically designed to deliver sustainable outcomes through continuous engagement, structured training and long-term monitoring.

HopeBeat adopts a targeted capacity-building approach by equipping micro-entrepreneurs with essential skills in financial awareness, digital marketing and halal management.

IN a step towards advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Faculty of Business Management and Professional Studies (FBMP) at Management and Science University (MSU) has launched HopeBeat, a community empowerment initiative programme aimed at creating lasting socio-economic impact among underserved entrepreneurs.

HopeBeat reflects MSU's ongoing commitment to translating academic expertise into meaningful societal contributions. Introduced in 2024, it is strategically designed to deliver sustainable outcomes through continuous engagement, structured training and long-term monitoring.

The importance of this approach is also emphasised in academic discourse, where it is regarded as fundamental to effective community-based research and outreach.

At the core of the initiative is the H.O.P.E. framework, an innovative model developed by FBMP that guides the programme's objectives: Holistic Wellbeing (H), Opportunities for Growth (O), Poverty Alleviation (P) and Empowerment of Communities (E).

The framework aligns closely with key SDG priorities, including quality education (SDG4), decent work and economic growth (SDG8), and reduced inequalities (SDG10), ensuring that interventions create transformative and sustainable change.

HopeBeat adopts a targeted capacity-building approach by equipping micro-entrepreneurs with essential skills in financial awareness, digital marketing and halal management.

These areas have been identified as critical for business sustainability and growth, particularly within Malaysia's socio-economic and cultural landscape, where many small-scale entrepreneurs face challenges in accessing formal training and expanding their market reach.

HopeBeat's beneficiaries consist of selected asnaf entrepreneurs identified through a collaborative and research-based process conducted with the committee of Masjid Al-Faizin, Seksyen 28, Shah Alam.

This partnership enables FBMP to identify individuals already engaged in entrepreneurial activities, but who require structured support and guidance to scale their businesses sustainably.

Participants include entrepreneurs and community members from Seksyen 28, PPR Batu Muda, and Taman Meru 4 in both Shah Alam and Klang.

To facilitate participation and strengthen capacity development efforts, each participant receives an RM1,000 training voucher under the HopeBeat Empowering Life programme.

The financial assistance enables beneficiaries to access structured training opportunities at MSU, reducing barriers to learning while promoting inclusive and equitable development.

What distinguishes HopeBeat from other community outreach programmes is its strong research component.

FBMP is conducting longitudinal monitoring of participants' business development and will undertake an empirical assessment to evaluate how training interventions influence financial management practices, digital adoption, business resilience and overall performance.

The evidence generated through this initiative is expected to contribute not only to community development but also to academic discourse on sustainable entrepreneurship, social innovation and impact-driven education.

More importantly, HopeBeat demonstrates how small-scale, well-designed university initiatives could generate meaningful and scalable outcomes when supported by structured frameworks, strategic partnerships and sustained engagement.

Through programmes like this, MSU continues to reinforce its commitment to its vision of "Transforming Lives, Enriching Future", while empowering communities to achieve greater economic independence and long-term prosperity.

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.

Anticipating exam questions

YOU have a thick textbook, a pile of notes and not a clue what you need to do to pass the test.

Instead of trying to learn everything and hoping for the best, try approaching your revision from another angle: by anticipating exam questions.

Unless you are taking a new course, you should be able to find some old exam papers. Read through them, note the themes and mark the ones that come up over and over again.

Look at the table of contents of your textbook as well as the headings of your study guide, and jot down all the buzzwords you've heard most often in class.

When you have a list of six to 10 topics, sit down and think of what a typical exam question might be for each.

If you have more time to revise, go through everything again and note some of the minor subjects. Then, repeat the exercise.

Finally, have a go at reading the textbook again. Maybe now that you've got a good grounding, you'll pick up something new. Or even better, try picking up a textbook from the library about the same subject but written by a different author.

This will give you a new perspective, and might give you that extra bit of edge you need to score an A.

Advancing health outcomes through science and care

THE World Health Organization estimates a projected global shortfall of 11 million healthcare workers by 2030, highlighting urgent gaps in clinical care and research and diagnostics.

In Malaysia, expanding healthcare access and a growing biomedical sector are further reinforcing the need for both pathways.

A Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree prepares students for direct patient care, combining rigorous academic training with clinical exposure.

Graduates enter a structured pathway towards becoming licensed doctors, often specialising after years of practice.

"From communication skills to professionalism, our curriculum emphasises a patient-centric approach to treatment, which produces better health outcomes for patients," said Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed) clinical affairs dean Prof Dr Harinarayan Radhakrishna.

Future healthcare professionals and biomedical scientists at NUMed learning through discovery and innovation.

Biomedical Sciences, on the other hand, focuses on the mechanisms of disease, training students in areas like molecular biology, immunology and translational research.

Graduates play a key role in developing diagnostics, therapies and medical technologies.

"Biomedical scientists play a vital role in disease diagnosis, medical research, quality assurance, public health and interdisciplinary collaboration," said NUMed School of Biomedical, Nutritional and Sport Sciences head and Biomedical Sciences dean Assoc Prof Dr Madihah Rushaidhi.

Whether at the patient's bedside or behind a breakthrough, future healthcare professionals and biomedical scientists share a common mission to improve lives through knowledge, innovation and compassionate care.

As the healthcare landscape continues to evolve, these disciplines will continue to remain at the forefront of building a healthier and more resilient future.

■ For more information on programmes offered by NUMed, visit *http://www.newcastle.edu.my*, email admissions@newcastle.edu.my, call 07-555 3800 or WhatsApp 011-1231 5411/012-784 9456.

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Pursue a bright future in accounting

CAREERS in accounting and finance are in high demand across all industries. Accountants oversee budgeting and financial planning, prepare annual financial statements and ensure that the company's accounts are audited efficiently and accurately.

Recognising the importance of knowledgeable and competent accounting personnel, the Management and Science University College (MSUC) offers the Diploma in Accounting through its School of Hospitality, Education and Business Studies (SHB) to those who enjoy working with numbers and calculations.

Accounting principles and auditing will be taught to students, as well as the most recent developments in economics, management, marketing, finance and insurance.

The curriculum ensures that students are not only capable of performing accounting transactions, but also of making tough business decisions.

This programme provides students with a solid foundation for mastering theory and techniques to understand financial and accounting activities.

Topics of study include economics, information technology, and accounting law.

Students with three credits in Mathematics, Science and any other subject in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) or recognised certificates can expect a conducive learning environment and high-calibre academics with years of experience.

Various character-building programmes, including those linked to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals initiatives, community engagements and entrepreneurial ecosystems will be embedded into students' learning experience to help them become more competitive and well-rounded.

Management and Science University College's Diploma in Accounting provides students with a solid head start in the field.

Credit transfer allows MSUC graduates to pursue a second-year bachelor's degree at Management and Science University (MSU) through its Faculty of Business Management and Professional Studies (FBMP).

Students are also encouraged to pursue additional accounting certifications such as the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) or the Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) to increase their earning power.

Other programmes offered by SHB include Early Childhood Education, Management and English Language Teaching.

MSU College is also the MSU APEL Centre for potential candidates to take the APEL Aptitude Test as the non-conventional pre-qualification for entry into higher studies, in which MSU currently offers APEL A and APEL C at T-3 (certificate), T-4 (diploma), T-6 (bachelor's degree) and T-7 (master's degree) levels.

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