



26TH CONVOCAATION

1 - 4 O C T O B E R 2 0 2 2

With Best Compliments

from the

**Chairman and Members of the Board of
Governors and OUM Top Management**

University for All



YABhg
Tun Jeanne Abdullah
Chancellor



YBhg
Tan Sri Azman Hashim
Pro-Chancellor

DOCTORAL

Business Administration • Philosophy (Business Administration) • Education • Philosophy (Education) • Philosophy (Arts) • Nursing • Philosophy (Engineering)

MASTER / POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA

Business Administration • Human Resource Management • Management • Early Childhood Education • Education • Instructional Design and Technology
Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching • Malay Language Education • Counselling • Corporate Communication • English Studies • Islamic Studies • Psychology
Environmental Science Management • Facility Management • Information Technology • Information Technology in Network Computing • Nursing
Occupational Safety and Health Risk Management • Project Management • Quality Management

BACHELOR

Accounting with Honours • Business Administration with Honours • Banking and Finance with Honours • Human Resource Management with Honours
Management with Honours • Marketing with Honours • Tourism Management with Honours • Early Childhood Education with Honours
Education (Educational Administration) with Honours • Education (Teaching of English As a Second Language) with Honours
Malay Studies with Honours • Teaching (Primary Education) with Honours • Applied Social Sciences with Honours • Communication with Honours
English Studies with Honours • Islamic Studies (Islamic Management) with Honours • Political Science with Honours • Psychology with Honours
Computer Science with Honours • Digital Media Design with Honours • Education (Civil Engineering) with Honours
Education (Electrical Engineering) with Honours • Education (Mathematics) with Honours • Education (Mechanical Engineering) with Honours
Education (Science) with Honours • Environmental Sustainability Management with Honours • Information Technology with Honours
Information Technology and Management with Honours • Information Technology in Network Computing with Honours
Information Technology with Software Engineering with Honours • Multimedia Communication with Honours • Manufacturing Management with Honours
Nursing Science with Honours • Occupational Safety and Health Management with Honours • Science in Project and Facility Management with Honours
Technology Management with Honours

DIPLOMA

Human Resource Management • Accounting • Management • Early Childhood Education • Islamic Studies with Education • Psychology
Information Technology • Executive Diploma in Occupational Safety and Health

Total Graduates = 5,390

Diversity rules at the 'University for All'



Mazlan will receive the meritorious award in Strategic Management.



Dr Edirisinghe will receive the meritorious award in Health Sciences.



Terengganu native Mohamad Ali will receive a Lifelong Learning Award.



Dr Ch'ng is ecstatic about receiving her Doctor of Philosophy (Arts).



Kamarun Zaman (left) and Hanzalah Zol are OUM's pioneer APEL Q graduates.



THE 26th convocation will be a significant milestone for Open University Malaysia (OUM) in living up to its motto of being a "University for All".

Meritorious award will be conferred upon two distinguished personalities – one Malaysian and the other, a Sri Lankan.

Former Deputy Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Mazlan Lazim will receive the meritorious award in Strategic Management while the chief executive officer of the International Institute of Health Sciences (IIHS) Sri Lanka, Dr Kithsiri Edirisinghe, will receive the meritorious award in Health Sciences.

IIHS is the only institute that provides higher education for nursing specialties in Sri Lanka.

Over 4,000 nurses from Sri Lanka have graduated from OUM through a collaboration between OUM and IIHS.

A 71-year-old Terengganu native, Mohamad Ali, will receive a Lifelong Learning Award.

"I was 68 when I registered at OUM. I'm active in a university alumni association, a retiree association, and a few cooperatives in Terengganu so I felt the need to improve my knowledge to motivate those that I meet in daily life.

"Lifelong learning is very important for the elderly like me," said Mohamad.

"The formal knowledge that I acquired at OUM has added value to enhance my travel agency business, which I set up 25 years ago."

Kamarun Zaman Ab Rahaman

Dr Ch'ng Hui Lin, 32, is ecstatic about receiving her Doctor of Philosophy (Arts).

The chief executive officer and co-founder of Micfront Academy of Public Speaking in Selangor said, "I completed my Master of Counselling at OUM in 2015 and got a distinction, so I thought why not try to apply for a PhD and also the scholarship from MyBrain15?"

"The scholarship was approved and there

was no turning back."

Meanwhile, managing director of a travel agency, Kamarun Zaman Ab Rahaman, 63, and maintenance supervisor, Hanzalah Zol Hamidy, 36, are OUM's pioneer APEL Q graduates.

Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning for Award of Academic Qualifications (APEL Q) provides a pathway for working professionals to convert their working experience into a recognised qualification.

"The formal knowledge that I acquired at OUM has added value to enhance my travel agency business, which I set up 25 years ago," said Kamarun Zaman, who is graduating with a Bachelor of Tourism Management with Honours degree.

Hanzalah, who studied Bachelor of Manufacturing Management, added, "APEL Q has made a significant impact on my career and life. I highly recommend it to anyone interested out there."

Five inmates from the Kajang Prison will also be receiving their scrolls at the convocation.

Two of them studied Bachelor of Business Administration while the remaining three pursued Diploma in Management.

One of the Diploma in Management graduates said, "When I found out that prison inmates are given a chance to continue their

studies, I told my parents about it.

"They said I should try it since everyone else in my family is educated.

"I decided to study to make them happy and proud and at the same time, not waste my time while in prison."

A private university with the aim of enabling anyone and everyone to study anytime anywhere, OUM provides higher education through online learning.

Classes, presentations, discussions, and even examinations are conducted online.

This is ideal for working adults as it enables them to work and study at the same time.

All of its programmes are recognised by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency, Public Service Department, and various professional bodies. Support services are provided through 35 learning centres nationwide.

OUM also provides its programmes abroad through strategic partnerships with foreign institutions of higher learning in Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Ghana, Somalia, Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates.

With this convocation, OUM will have produced approximately 98,000 local and 7,000 foreign graduates.

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



Yogeswaran and Pavithra will be receiving their scrolls at OUM's 26th convocation.

Masters of their own fate

HIGH school sweethearts, Yogeswaran S.P. Muniandi and Pavithra Saraswathy, both 32, are among the 5,000 graduates who will be receiving their scrolls at OUM's 26th convocation.

"We believe that even a single investment in knowledge returns the best interest in future. So we did our bachelor's degree together at OUM, followed by our master's. We got married a year into our master's programme, but that didn't stop us from achieving our goals," said Yogeswaran.

While he pursued Master of Instructional Design and Technology (MIDT), Pavithra studied the Master of Counselling programme.

Previously an international school educator, Yogeswaran is an aspiring young edupreneur who sought to acquire strong instructional design skills.

Taking up MIDT enabled him to launch his own business, which delivers e-learning solutions for different industries.

Said Yogeswaran, "The MIDT programme strengthened my e-learning project design and development skills. Together with my technical skills, it enabled me to establish a business model for a new market."

Meanwhile, Pavithra gained deeper understanding of human behaviour through the Master of Counselling programme.

"It has benefited my job as a Human Resource Services head in the healthcare industry, especially in communication strategies and training needs," she said.

Having mastered the full spectrum of being a HR practitioner, Pavithra has founded Partners in Counselling (PIC) together with her coursemates. It is a registered non-governmental organisation, which provides pro bono counselling services, peer consultation and mentoring for counselling students.

On their learning experience, the couple said, "Studying part-time while working full-time was challenging, but we supported each other, which is one of the secrets of our success."

Yogeswaran and Pavithra are among the approximately 5,000 graduates at the 26th OUM convocation. Among the graduates, 31 are persons with disabilities (PWDs).

One of them is Mohd Huzaire Ahmad, 46, a school teacher at SK Felda Mempaga 2 in

Pahang. A fall from a rambutan tree at his fiancée's house in Perak in 1999 had confined him to a wheelchair.

"I had been in the final semester of my studies at a teachers' training college. At 24, I became paralysed from the waist down, my fiancée left me, and I lost my chance to become a teacher."

Two years later, the skies brightened for Huzaire when he was given a chance to do his practicum. He went on to become a music teacher and even obtained a bachelor's degree in primary school music education.

Challenges continued to come and Huzaire continued to overcome them with his wife by his side.

"She is an administrative assistant at the school where I teach. Each school day, she would carry my wheelchair while I would go up the stairs on my own. I didn't want to burden anyone else," he shared.

As a PWD, Huzaire is not immune from discrimination and disrespect saying, "I felt unappreciated at work, so my wife encouraged me to do my master's. I enrolled in the Master of Education programme at OUM in 2020."

The learning environment suited him well.

"Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, I attended only three face-to-face classes before all the classes were shifted online. So I didn't have to worry about how to get to classes anymore."

"The discounted study fees for PWDs, flexible mode of learning, easy-to-understand courses, and friendly, fast-to-act staff also helped a lot," he commented.

In his 20 years as a teacher, Huzaire has won 13 awards. Last May, he was one of 25 teachers nationwide who won Anugerah Guru Inspirasi McDonald's 2022, which honours teachers who go beyond their call of duty. Huzaire has also written three anthologies and is in the midst of writing a motivational book based on his life experiences.

"This master's is not the end of my education. I plan to do a PhD next, also at OUM. Education is a weapon for PWDs. We are always being looked down upon by some members of society. When we study more, we will be respected and valued more," he concluded.



In his 20 years as a teacher, Huzaire has won 13 awards.

Congratulations,
Graduates of the **26TH**
CONVOCATION

The **GREATEST** reward
is the **JOURNEY**



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