

Laying the foundation for success

THE University of Reading in the United Kingdom is recognised as one of the Top 100 universities worldwide for International Outlook by the Times Higher Education (THE) 2021.

At the university's branch campus in Malaysia, located in EduCity Iskandar Johor, students get the best of both worlds – the same highly respected University of Reading degree but at 40% of the overall estimated costs compared with studying at the UK campus, taking into account fees and living expenses.

The International Foundation Programme (IFP)

This programme offered at the University of Reading Malaysia (UoRM) campus is aimed at students with SPM, IGCSE and equivalent. It is an intensive 12-month programme that prepares students for the rigours of undergraduate study.

Before joining the programme, students are encouraged to think carefully about the kind of undergraduate degree they would like to pursue.

The university stresses that choosing a particular degree will naturally lead to a certain set of career opportunities, therefore it's important for students to consider what careers they are interested in and what they will find fulfilling.

The counselling team at the university is available to discuss and advise prospective students and parents on what study options might be most suitable.

IFP students have a choice of pathways that include, but are not limited to:

- > Accounting and finance
- > Finance and business
- > Real estate
- > Quantity surveying
- > Psychology
- > Law

Students would complete a total of four modules, depending upon the pathway chosen.

For example, a student who chooses the Accounting and Finance pathway will study modules in economics and mathematics.

The pathways lead to a range of undergraduate degree options offered at the University's Henley Business School that may be pursued either at the campus in Malaysia or in Reading, UK.

The degree programmes offered at the Malaysia campus are focused on selected professional disciplines which would provide excellent career prospects in Malaysia and the region.

IFP also has a number of additional pathways that could lead to undergraduate degrees offered only at the Reading UK campus, including:

- > Politics, economics and international relations
- > Computer science
- > Food and nutritional sciences
- > Agriculture
- > Archaeology, geography and environmental science

Students can complete IFP in Malaysia, and upon meeting all the necessary requirements, transfer



At UoRM, Academic Skills is a mandatory module in IFP, and is designed to help students develop essential academic skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving and information research.



Due to restrictions brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, the university assures its students that they will be provided with excellent support for online learning.



University of Reading Malaysia (UoRM) provides students with the ideal environment to balance serious academic study and social life without the hassle and cost of living in a big city.

directly to the United Kingdom to complete their entire degree.

One of the key benefits of studying in the University of Reading is the flexible options that students have for a global experience.

Students can study their entire degree either in Malaysia or in the United Kingdom or experience both campuses.

This option may appeal to parents who wish to send their child for study in the UK but are concerned about travel restrictions and health and safety in the current pandemic situation.

The university's main campus in the United Kingdom is set in 130ha of beautiful parkland and has won the Green Flag award nine times in a row, making it one of the UK's best green spaces.

The campus also has sports facilities, a health centre, eateries, a supermarket and on-campus accommodation. Furthermore, Reading town is only a 22-minute train ride from London.

Transition to university

For many students, the transition to university is not an easy one. At the University of Reading, the

expectation is that students become independent learners.

This can be challenging at first for some students who, because of their schooling environment, have become overly dependent on their teachers and "spoon-feeding".

For this reason, Academic Skills is a mandatory module in IFP, and is designed to help students develop essential academic skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving and information research.

The module also helps students develop their academic writing skills, including how to structure reports and organise written assignments.

Another important aspect of the IFP programme is the development of soft skills, such as working in teams, time management, creativity and communications, all of which are vital for a student's career and holistic development.

Students also have ample opportunity to improve their standard of English, both written and oral.

In the current Covid-19 pandemic situation, where the Higher Education Ministry restricts access to campus for health and

safety reasons, the university assures its students that they will be provided with excellent support for online learning.

Students would have access to a suite of digital learning tools including the Blackboard Learning Management System, Blackboard Collaborate, Microsoft Teams and round-the-clock access to the university's digital library, which are the same set of robust digital tools used by students at the Reading UK campus.

Learning materials such as screencasts and presentations are available, supported by live virtual sessions with academic staff.

Students would be supported by an experienced and dedicated academic team.

Each student is also assigned an academic tutor to provide one-to-one support and mentoring where required.

The university's experience indicates that such support would be of great benefit to students in helping them cope with and adapt to the university environment which requires a higher level of self-discipline than they may be used to.

Student lifestyle at EduCity

The location of the Malaysia campus provides students with the ideal environment to balance serious academic study and social life without the hassle and cost of living in a big city.

The campus occupies a state-of-the-art complex that houses IT-enabled classrooms, lecture theatre, learning resource centre and student social areas all conveniently under one roof.

Based in EduCity, Asia's first multi-campus education city located in Iskandar Puteri Johor, students enjoy a safe environment and excellent facilities that include an Olympic swimming pool, running track, indoor stadium, fitness centre, music studio and a 24-hour Student Hub.

There are also plenty of clubs and societies that students can get involved in.

The Reading University Malaysia Student Association (RUMSA) organises various events throughout the year and during weekends, students can opt to visit the facilities surrounding the campus like shopping malls, Legoland, Desaru resort and other attractions close by.

Besides that, Singapore is less than 25 minutes away by shuttle bus. There are also affordable accommodation options in and within walking distance to EduCity. Students can choose to stay at the Student Village in EduCity itself or nearby service apartments like EcoNest that provide condo-style living with a swimming pool and facilities.

There would also be a free shuttle bus that services the campus and surrounding areas within Johor.

New students have the option to start the IFP in April, July or September each year. For eligible students, the High Achievers Scholarship is valued at up to RM33,840, or the equivalent of a 30% discount for the entire duration of study (terms and conditions).

■ For details, visit www.reading.edu.my or follow them on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/universityofreadingmalaysia> or <https://www.instagram.com/uniofreadingmalaysia/>

A monumental milestone for varsity

NEWCASTLE University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed) achieved a monumental milestone when its students and alumni led by their supervisor Honourable Prof Edmund Ong made headlines in a highly reputable global journal.

Their research papers were successfully published in the *Journal of Global Health Reports*. Significant headway like this is symbolic of NUMed's capability to produce high-calibre scholars.

The research paper titled "Perceptions, Attitude, Responses, Knowledge and Emotional Well-being (PARKE) of COVID-19 among students at Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed)" was co-authored by final-year MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery) students Joyce Chee and Sylvia Kong as part of a research team.

Their research seeks to analyse the knowledge, perceptions, behavioural adaptation and psychological well-being pertaining to Covid-19 among students, as well as distinguishing their reception towards Covid-19.

Chee and Kong believe an individual's understanding and perception of Covid-19 will determine the tendency of adhering to the standard operating procedure (SOP) designed to mitigate transmission.

When asked how she was affected by the virus outbreak, Chee said she felt the impact very strongly as a fourth-year medical student when her planned elective was cancelled and she got very little clinical exposure.

She also noticed that the public's false knowledge of Covid-19 sparked a slew of inappropriate behaviours such as panic



Given the acclaimed status of such academic excellence including clinical research, prospective students studying medicine in NUMed will have abundant opportunities.

buying and hoarding toilet rolls.

"Medical students have more credibility and can take the lead in educating the public about the transmission of Covid-19," she said.

Although the data collection process was initially challenging due to the nature of online questionnaires, they managed to

receive a good response rate of 40%.

Their research shows that a majority of the participants who are medical students have a high reception and compliance towards Covid-19 – 80% believed they knew how to protect themselves, 68% firmly agreed Covid-19 was a serious public health issue and 90% practised the recommended measures.

The importance of accurate and consistent information dissemination between various health authorities was the main stressor of the research.

This is vital in preventing misconception that might raise unnecessary behavioural and psychological responses.

"It made me realise how important cooperation is in research and that having a good team will significantly alleviate the workload," Chee shared on her experience in balancing clinical posting and conducting research.

This research project was undertaken during the first Movement Control Order declared on March 18 last year.

The second paper, "Health screening for new entry medical students at Newcastle University Medicine (NUMed) Malaysia: a 4-year cross-sectional study" was co-authored by Dr Edward Goh, a NUMed alumni.

The objective was to illustrate the clinical significance of health screening and Hepatitis B vaccine (HBV) seroconversion prior to medical school admission in the occupational health field with the main focus to determine the importance of HBV vaccinations among medical students to mitigate the risks of HBV viral transmission such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV during clinical posting.

NUMed practises a stringent adherence to the UK medical schools council protocol, making screening for blood-borne viruses a

mandatory health requirement for new entry medical students.

It was a long journey as the data tabulation involves a manual extraction of the four-year database, which requires full concentration, time and effort on top of their teaching job.

"It takes great teamwork and dedication to complete our data collection, followed by tabulation and interpretation," Dr Goh said.

His biggest hurdle was having to juggle writing the primary draft from ground up and working as a house officer, all the while with support from Honorary Prof Edmund Ong.

Dr Goh ascribed the success of his research to the supportive environment during his clinical teaching fellowship in NUMed, "I think having a clear goal in the beginning and a support system from a mentor such as Prof Ong and team members helped a lot in keeping me focused."

"It is encouraging that NUMed is in the position to encourage and train such an enthusiastic group of students in the area of clinical research as they will become the next generation of doctors who hopefully will continue with their research skill in the next phase of their career.

"It's a pleasure to be in the position to lead them," commented Prof Ong, who conceived the concept for both research projects.

Given the acclaimed status of such academic excellence including clinical research, prospective students studying medicine in NUMed will have abundant opportunities offered by NUMed – Malaysia's front runner in internal medicine, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery, emergency medicine, and orthopaedics.

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

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Making effective revision notes

WHEN you're at the end of the semester, revision becomes a lot easier when you have good exam notes.

Here are a few tips that will help you develop a killer set, and hopefully get awesome results.

Box it up

The eye reads long sentences but the mind doesn't remember them very well. Keep your notes as concise as possible: think Post-It note. If you're writing in a Word document, make little boxes or just use half the page.

Bullets hit home

Revision is about taking in a subject, understanding it, and then condensing it into something concise. Read, understand and then summarise the absolute main points in

a few pithy sentences or facts. If you present them as bullet notes, your mind will remember them even better.

Number the bullet notes

If you know you have five things to remember about working with dementia, and three things to remember about the invasion of Persia, you'll find it easier to manage your memory – especially when it comes to knowing if you got all the points.

Acronyms work

If you have six things to remember about ethics, say, autonomy, non-maleficence, beneficence, justice, fidelity and veracity, put the first letter in bold so you get anbfv, you can make an acronym of it which will help you reconstitute the list while you're in the exam hall.



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^{*} Guardian University Guide (2021)



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BA Business and Management

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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/PA12029)

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

BSc Psychology with Professional Placement

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High demand for built environment grads

MALAYSIA'S economy registered a smaller decline of 0.5% in the first quarter compared with the 3.4% contraction in the preceding quarter, according to the Malaysia Economic Performance First Quarter 2021 report by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

The construction sector fell by 10.4% year-on-year in the first quarter, improving from the 13.9% contraction in the first quarter, this may be attributed to the revival of major infrastructure projects, along with affordable housing projects, and much more.

Despite the disruption to the local construction industry, brighter days are ahead with the government's recently announced plans to boost the industry towards recovery, coupled with proactive measures to immunise workers in the sector.

Heriot-Watt University Malaysia's

Associate Head of School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society (EGIS) Professor Satesh Narayana concurs: "The initiatives announced by the government and proactive measures by industry players to protect their workers through the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme will expedite Malaysia's economic recovery.

"This will lead to a creation of an abundance of jobs over the next few years, which would, in turn, create a high demand for graduates in the built environment arena, including quantity surveying and civil engineering."

In addition, technology adoption will also catalyse the construction industry to employ high-skilled talent that will help industry players move towards automation, mechanisation, and industrialised building systems with the aim of developing buildings that are



'Heriot-Watt offers UK education, experience, and quality, without having to fork out exorbitant fees,' said Komalah Selvamuthu Raja.

safe, sustainable, environmentally friendly and affordable.

"As soon as society normalises, one of the first industries to hit high gear will be the built environment, as development and progress need to continue.

"Therefore, in two to three years, anyone with a building-related degree will be highly sought after as we continue our journey towards achieving the status of a fully developed country," said Prof Satesh.

Towards this, Heriot-Watt University is committed to developing graduates who are FutureMade – shaped for tomorrow's work and equipped with the right abilities accom-

panied by the capacity to navigate the intricacies for the future of work.

Heriot-Watt graduates are highly employable and sought after by top global employers, with over 90% in graduate-level jobs or further study within six months of graduation.

Furthermore, Heriot-Watt University is ranked third for building, and ninth for town and country planning landscape design in the UK, according to the 2021 *Complete University Guide*. In the 2021 *The Times* and *The Sunday Times' Good University Guide*, Heriot-Watt remains first in Scotland for six consecutive years and second in the UK for building.

BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying student Komalah Selvamuthu Raja said: "It is the only international university in Malaysia offering a Quantity Surveying degree. Additionally, it is accredited by the Royal Institute of Surveyors Malaysia and the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors in the UK.

"Heriot-Watt offers UK education, experience, and quality, without having to fork out exorbitant fees. It is an excellent stepping stone for me to pursue my postgraduate studies in the UK and eventually venture into an international career or even be an entrepreneur."

Heriot-Watt University Malaysia (HWUM) offers several undergraduate programmes related to the built environment, including Quantity Surveying, BSc (Hons); Construction Project Management, BSc (Hons); and BEng (Hons) Civil Engineering.

The pathway to the university's undergraduate programmes begins with a Foundation in Science or Foundation in Business designed to prepare and equip students with the skill sets that will ease their transition into their studies.

> SEE NEXT PAGE



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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

- Medicine
KPT/JPT(R/2/72/1/6/0033)/09/2026 | MQA/FA6155
FEB | SEP
- Psychology
KPT/JPT(R/2/31/6/0013)/09/2022 | MQA/A8177
FEB | SEP
- Counselling (Master)
KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0046)/09/2026 | MQA/PA12002
SEP

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

- Dentistry
KPT/JPT(R/2/724/6/0010)/01/2023 | MQA/FA7026
FEB
- Endodontics (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0043)/05/2024 | MQA/PSA12162
APR
- Implant Dentistry (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R/724/7/0019)/06/2026 | MQA/PSA111
SEP
- Prosthodontics (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0042)/05/2024 | MQA/PSA12163
JUN

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

- Pharmaceutical Chemistry
KPT/JPT(R/2/442/6/0003)/01/2023 | MQA/A8229
FEB | JUL | SEP
- Pharmacy
KPT/JPT(R/2/727/6/0050)/09/2026 | MQA/FA8374
JUL | SEP

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KPT/JPT(R/2/421/6/0011)/09/2022 | MQA/A8230
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- Diabetes Management and Education (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(N/726/7/0030)/02/2023 | MQA/PSA9086
MAR | JUL
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KPT/JPT(R/2/726/6/0021)/09/2022 | MQA/A8176
JUL | SEP
- Medical Biotechnology
KPT/JPT(R/2/545/6/0014)/09/2022 | MQA/A8228
JUL | SEP
- Nursing
KPT/JPT(R/723/6/0125)/04/2027 | MQA/FA8944
SEP
- Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R/726/6/0011)/06/2022 | MQA/FA1298
JUL | SEP


SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

- Analytical and Pharmaceutical Chemistry* (MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/2-CDL/442/7/0001)/01/2027 | MQA/FA1191
MAR | SEP
- Business Administration in Healthcare Management (PG Cert / PG Dip / Master)
KPT/JPT(N/345/7/1082)/09/2023 | MQA/PSA11354
KPT/JPT(N/345/7/1090)/12/2023 | MQA/PSA11355
KPT/JPT(N/345/7/1085)/10/2023 | MQA/PSA11353
MAR | SEP
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KPT/JPT(N-DL/145/7/0120)/02/2026 | MQA/PSA05162
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0066)/09/2025 | MQA/PSA05162
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0064)/09/2025 | MQA/PSA163
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0070)/09/2025 | MQA/PSA164
MAR
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KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0131)/09/2025 | MQA/PSA13973
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SEP
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KPT/JPT(R/727/7/0051)/03/2024 | MQA/PSA02796
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SEP
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Bursaries for bright young minds

> FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

HWUM offers two bursaries under the Datuk Seri (Dr) Michael Yam – CIOB Bursary, to nurture deserving bright young minds at the university's Malaysian campus, who would be embarking on their studies in this field in the upcoming September intake.

> Bursary 1:

Total of RM10,000 to support up to four new students for the first year of their undergraduate degree in Construction Project Management and Quantity Surveying as well as Postgraduate MSc degree in Construction Project Management, who would be starting their studies in the September 2021 intake.

> Bursary 2:

Total of RM10,000, to support two current students undergoing their undergraduate degree in Construction Project Management and Quantity Surveying, whose financial standing may have been impacted by the pandemic situation.

HWUM is receiving applications for the July foundation intake and September undergraduate 2021 intake. To contact the university for a personal virtual appointment with its education counsellors, visit <https://bit.ly/consulthwum> or WhatsApp or call 012-651 2599 to make an appointment.

■ For more details on Heriot-Watt University, visit www.hw.edu.my

Developing a child's potential

EARLY childhood education plays an important role in the physical and mental development of children.

With effective exposure and proper guidance, a child may develop to his or her full potential and have a bright future.

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco), early childhood care and education is more than preparation for primary school.

It aims at the holistic development of a child's social, emotional, cognitive and physical needs in order to build a solid and broad foundation for lifelong learning and well-being.

It has the possibility to nurture caring, capable and responsible future citizens.

Unesco's approach is reinforced in the Education 2030 agenda and in particular target 4.2 of Sustainable Development Goal 4 which aims to "by 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education".

Supporting the agenda, Diploma in Early Childhood Education offered at MSU College is specifically designed for those who are passionate about teaching children and ensure they are equipped with the intellectual building blocks necessary for future success.

With at least three credits in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) or recognised certificates, students



The Diploma in Early Childhood Education offered by MSU College is specifically designed for those passionate about teaching children.

can expect a conducive learning environment and high-calibre lecturers who have years of experience in the field.

The programme provides quality education in children's early development, producing future educators capable of effective interaction, engagement, and management of children.

Specific emphasis is given on teaching and learning theories, pedagogical skills, curriculum content, children development and psychology, child-learning assessment, pre-school centre manage-

ment, safety and nutrition aspects of children, as well as spiritual and moral development of children.

And in line with MSU College's aspiration to produce a balanced, holistic and well-rounded graduate, Graduate Employability Skills (GEmS) and Personal Enrichment Competency (PEC) programmes are also embedded into student learning experience as part of the initiatives to further enhance their soft skills and ensure they are competent in the job market.

Upon completing the diploma, graduates may continue to pursue

a Bachelor in Early Childhood Education or other programmes at Management and Science University (MSU) through its School of Education and Social Sciences with the option of credit transfer.

Here are some career prospects in early childhood education for graduates to explore – pre-school teacher, childcare worker, social worker, early childhood programme officer and many more.

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



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, Malaysia's top-ranked and world-ranked for graduate employability.

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IMU students making waves

TWO International Medical University (IMU) medical students, Raja Nur Shahkeerah Raja Kamarul Zaman from ME218 and Mikhael Yap from ME219 as well as Psychology student Irene Sandra from PS120, who call themselves the Adrenaline Jonkies, won the Policy-making Competition held by Sheffield Malaysian Students Association (SMSA) on March 20-21, 2021.

According to team leader Shahkeerah, the win was a surreal experience.

"We never thought we would win such a competition until the Adrenaline Jonkies was announced as the winner of the two-day policy competition. It was so surreal but we are all very grateful to have won the judges' hearts through our presentation," she said.

She said the two-day-long competition includes few discussion sessions within the groups and moderators including a brief presentation in front of the esteemed judges, which was an arduous but valuable experience.

"It has also given us the platform to connect with 20 other participants from different nationalities such as Singapore, India and Qatar with most of them being Sheffield University students themselves."

The Policy-Making competition aims to engage with youths to generate ideas and policies on public funding during this Covid-19 pandemic and across different pillars which are education, finance, and healthcare.

"As the team leader, I directed



'It was so surreal but we are all very grateful to have won the judges' hearts through our presentation,' said Shahkeerah.

the team to focus on the crucial issues that arose in this pandemic especially in the education sectors such as digital gaps, limited accessibility to gadgets and poor education quality due to the pandemic with the aim to ensure that quality and sustainable education is given to all despite the pandemic."

On the second day of the competition, she said, her team proposed three key solutions such as zero-rating policies for educational platforms, laptop vouchers of RM1,500 for all students and also standardisation of learning platforms to complement the current policy introduced by the government and leveraged on that, with few implementations from other countries.

"Multiple questions were thrown to us by the floor to further clarify our policies but we managed to fare better than what we expected.

"In the beginning, we were aiming to be in the top four, especially when all of us were too caught up with other academic workloads that required more attention.

"However, due to the strong teamwork we have between us, it has somehow made the process much smoother and easier, eventually leading us to win the competition," she said.

At IMU, students who are studying medicine have the option to complete the entire degree in IMU or study the first two and a half years of the degree in IMU and transfer to one of more than 20

partner universities in Australia, the United Kingdom, Ireland or Canada for completion of the medical programme.

These international partnerships mean that the IMU curriculum has been developed to meet these universities' high international standards.

As medical student in IMU, students would get clinical exposure as early as Semester One.

The aim of clinical exposure is to ensure that students gain sufficient skills before transferring to the clinical years.

If you complete the entire degree locally in IMU, you will undergo an intensive six-month Senior Clerkship at Hospital Batu Pahat or Hospital Kluang in Semester 10, working in wards under the supervision of senior clinicians.

This early clinical exposure and intensive Senior Clerkship will better prepare students for patient care and housemanship training, enabling graduates to become better doctors.

The next commencement date for this programme is in August. Students with pre-university qualifications and interest in Medicine are encouraged to apply online.

Students who just completed SPM and do not have pre-university qualifications are encouraged to enrol in the one-year IMU Foundation in Science (FiS).

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

Getting into the reading habit

YOU know why reading's good for you but you just can't get into it. If this is you, here are some tips to get you turning those pages.

Read things that you have interest in

Really, if reading's a chore, you're going to find 1,001 reasons not to do it. Just like you always find something better to do than to clean the top of the door frame or underneath the fridge. So if you love slushy romance, or crazy fantasy sword-and-sorcery tales, don't worry about it, just pick up a book and go for it.

Every book has its own value

Yes, there are books that are packed with learning, knowledge, philosophy and all good things. You might read *A Brief History of Time* and become a physics genius. But you can read a book about hobbits and learn about bravery and self-sacrifice too. Every book has a message, so make the most of it.

Not all classics are great

It can be very hard to understand the motivations of people from different places and times. Also, the way words are used can change so radically over time that reading a book written last century can appear complete gobbledygook. So if you pick up a classic and it doesn't click with you, don't worry about it. Just read something else that resonates.



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The importance of food safety



The Bachelor of Food Safety and Quality Technology programme is a collaboration between UniKL and QSR Brands (M) Holdings Bhd.

UNIVERSITI Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) has announced its Bachelor of Food Safety and Quality Technology programme as the latest programme of study in the field of chemical engineering technology.

This degree programme is a collaboration between UniKL and QSR Brands (M) Holdings Bhd that covers two years of study at UniKL MICET campus and one year in the industry (2u1i).

Although this programme is under chemical engineering technology, it is technically more geared towards food-related technology as well as leveraging the needs of QSR Brands (M) Holdings Bhd in terms of human resource development.

UniKL MICET dean, Assoc Prof Ts Dr Ruzainah Ali, stated that the programme was introduced to meet the current demand, in which we can clearly see the rapid growth of the food industry despite the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic crisis, "I believe this Bachelor of Food Safety and Quality Technology programme can further enhance the students' capabilities and support them in acquiring adequate industry skills and knowledge in

line with current industrial needs."

The concept of the 2u2i or 2u1i academic programme is one of the comprehensive initiatives for the undergraduate programme that vastly covers multiple aspects such as knowledge, practical, experience and industrial exposure as well as embedded professional courses.

Through this programme, students will be able to be better prepared as well as seamlessly adapt to the working environment after graduation. Moreover, the programme is also perceived to be able to better prepare students to meet the expectations and needs when being recruited into the workforce.

This programme will be offered in September and students can visit the UniKL official website to get the latest information.

By the end of their studies, students will also obtain a professional certificate as a halal executive recognised by Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (Jakim), which is an added value to graduates as it will distinguish them in this competitive industry.

> SEE NEXT PAGE

Neighbours banding together

CURTIN University Malaysia (Curtin Malaysia) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) last Tuesday for long-term collaboration with Parahyangan Catholic University, also known as Universitas Katolik Parahyangan (UNPAR), in Bandung, Indonesia.

A virtual signing ceremony was held where Curtin Malaysia's pro vice-chancellor, president and chief executive Professor Simon Leunig and Rector of UNPAR, Bapak Mangadar Situmorang, PhD, signed on behalf of their respective universities.

The MoU sets the framework for collaboration in a wide range of areas, including joint education and research activities, staff and student exchange, exchange of academic materials and publications and joint organisation of academic and scientific conferences.

In his speech during the ceremony, Prof Leunig said it was apparent that UNPAR's strengths in academia and research could be leveraged with Curtin Malaysia's strengths as the largest global campus and education and research hub in South-East Asia.

Prof Leunig noted that the partnership would commence with academic collaboration between its department of Chemical Engineering and UNPAR's Chemical Engineering Department, saying that it was a good first step in the partnership.

"I am sure this collaboration will gradually be extended to other areas and programmes, seeing as UNPAR has similar programmes in business, social sciences, engineering, science and technology as us," he said.

Prof Leunig assured Bapak Mangadar that it would be a quality partnership as Curtin Malaysia offers a wide range of

accredited and internationally recognised courses in study areas where Curtin ranks highly in the global subject rankings, including second in the world for Mineral and Mining Engineering, 43rd for Geology, and 44th for Petroleum Engineering in the QS Subject Rankings. Curtin is also within the top 150 in the world for Chemical Engineering.

To help Curtin University expand its global footprint, he said, and enhance the quality of its scholarship, teaching and research, Curtin Malaysia actively seeks opportunities to foster partnerships with reputable institutions, industry, business and government.

Meanwhile, Bapak Mangadar said the MoU showed the commitment of the two institutions to establishing a long-lasting and productive partnership.

He added that with over 11,000 students, some 1,000 academic staff and 31 study programmes ranging from business, social sciences and law to engineering, industrial technology, philosophy, and soon medical and health studies and education as well, UNPAR had much to contribute to the partnership.

UNPAR academics have visited Curtin Malaysia in the past, he said, and are looking forward to more meaningful exchanges with their Curtin counterparts in the coming years.

Also present were UNPAR's dean of Faculty of Industrial Technology Dr Thedy Yogasara, vice dean of Faculty of Industrial Technology for Students and Alumni Affairs Bapak Faisal Wahab, head of international office Dr Sylvia Yazid, head of Chemical Engineering department Dr Tedi Hudaya, head of Graduate Programme Dr Ir Asaf Kleopas Sugih and head of Chemical Engineering study programme Dr Jenny Novianti

Muliarahayu Soetedjo.

Representing Curtin Malaysia along with Prof Leunig were deputy pro vice-chancellor Professor Beena Giridharan, dean of Faculty of Engineering and Science Professor Tuong Thuy Vu, deputy Dean of R&D and Chair of Curtin Malaysia Graduate Studies Committee Associate Professor Agus Saptoro, head of Chemical Engineering department Associate Professor Stephanie Chan Yen San and chair of Industrial and External Relations Committee, Faculty of Engineering and Science Dr Lim Chye Ing.

■ For more information on Curtin Malaysia, visit curtin.edu.my or look for Curtin Malaysia on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, or LinkedIn.



Representatives of Curtin Malaysia and UNPAR during the signing ceremony. Bapak Mangadar and Prof Leunig are at top left and far right, second row, respectively.

More courses available



Dr Ruzainah Ali stated that the programme was introduced to meet the current demand.

> FROM PREVIOUS PAGE


UniKL MICET, which is located in Alor Gajah, Melaka also offers six bachelor programmes – Bachelor of Chemical Engineering with Honours, Bachelor of Chemical Engineering Technology in Polymer, Food, Process, Bioprocess and Environment.

For diploma programmes, UniKL MICET offers two courses,

which are the Diploma in Chemical Engineering Technology (Food) and Diploma in Chemical Engineering Technology.

UniKL MICET also offers one foundation programme – the Foundation in Science.

■ For more details, call 011-5760 4308 (Izzul), email norshaerah@unikl.edu.my or visit www.unikl.edu.my




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Nurturing generations, building society

THE Management and Science University (MSU) through the School of Hospitality and Creative Arts (SHCA) held a virtual edition of its Hospitality and Creative Arts Carnival also known as HeARTS.

Officiating the closing ceremony of HeARTS 2021 virtual edition was MSU president Prof Tan Sri Datuk Wira Dr Mohd Shukri Ab Yajid.

He said: "Tourism may have been badly affected, yet do not let yourself be perturbed by it.

"Instead, master a new skill, embrace technology and keep learning.

"Engage with creativity in problem-solving, and move forward with adaptability, agility, and learnability."

Building both community and collaboration, HeARTS aims to deliver the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 for Sustainable Cities and Communities through its community engagement programme MyNeighbours.

With the theme Nurturing Generations, Building Society, the programme seeks to elevate the economic capability of the asnaf community through a boost in knowledge and skills.

Courses include basic design for business, basic sewing, food costing guide and a baking workshop.

The 2021 edition is a continuation from MyNeighbours 2019 with the same group of participants.

Other programmes and activities in HeARTS 2021 included the 12th SHCA Research Colloquium 2021, the SHCA Entrepreneurial and Innovation Exhibition (ENVEX), an awareness talk on online etiquette – Don't Be Mean Behind the Screen, and a short course on sign language.

Webinar titles comprised Digital Tourism: The New Age of Smart Tourism, Emerging Trend: Touring Bikers, Growth as an Entrepreneur, and Alumni Sharing on



The HeARTS 2021 Virtual Edition concluded with an endowment of RM20,000 presented to Yayasan MSU. From left are Senior Vice-President Endowment and Communication MSU Datuk Rosli Yusof, Prof Tan Sri Dr Mohd Shukri and Dean of SHCA Azizul Jamaluddin.

Careers during Covid-19: Challenges and Changes.

HeARTS 2021 main competitions comprised MSU Young Chefs Battlefield, MSU Waiter Race Virtual Edition, Spa and Beauty Fest 4.0 and Folk Music Arrangement.

The award for Most Outstanding Young Chef in the MSU Young Chefs Battlefield 2021 competition went to Muhammad Isa Zarin from the Bachelor in Culinary Arts (Hons) programme, whilst the award for Most Outstanding Waiter in the MSU Waiter Race 2021 Virtual Edition went to Muhammad Farihin Mohd Faizal from the Diploma in Culinary Arts programme.

The award for Most Outstanding at the Spa and Beauty Fest 4.0 was bagged by Puteri Nur Eizyana Azhar from the Diploma in Beauty Management programme, while

the award for Most Outstanding Modern Folk Music Arrangement went to Azie Syazwina Khairul Ariffin from the Diploma in Music Technology programme.

Earlier on, the School of Hospitality and Creative Arts (SHCA) had organised its Dean's List Award 2021 with style icon Bon Zainal as guest speaker.

Other HeARTS 2021 competitions included Warisan Budaya Malaysia, Colours of Malaysia, Starstruck Dance, Heritage Dessert Styling, MSU Cyber Games, Dynamics Robotics, D.I.Y. Craft, and Craftastic Floral. Singing and dancing talents were pitted in Star Quest and The Art of Malay Culture.

Some 100 students from event management organised HeARTS 2021, with co-organisers of some 500 students from event practices, tourism and project management.

Attended by students of SHCA and MSU colleges nationwide as well as industry panellists and members of the MSU Alumni Association, HeARTS 2021 Virtual Edition concluded with an endowment of RM20,000 presented to Yayasan MSU (YMSU).

Among the sponsoring companies to HeARTS 2021 was Mios Kitchen.

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 to be well-rounded and highly sought after by employers.

Extensive partnerships and collaborations with institutions in over 40 countries worldwide provide comprehensive mobility opportunities for students, thus enhancing their graduate employability through global exposures by studies and internships abroad.

The university's programmes are meticulously crafted to enhance graduate potential.

MSU houses the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, the Faculty of Business Management and Professional Studies, the Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering, the International Medical School, the School of Pharmacy, the School of Education and Social Sciences, the School of Hospitality and Creative Arts, the School of Graduate Studies, the Graduate School of Management, and the Centre for Fundamental Studies.

MSU also offers foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and flexible programmes through an entry system that facilitates admission of students with the aim of "transforming lives and enriching future".

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

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