

# StarSpecial

THE STAR, THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2021

EDUCATION GUIDE



## Eyeing a bright future

Check out some of the best higher learning institutions in this pullout to make an informed choice before pursuing your further studies.



# Students keep it together in the pandemic

NEVER in Kezzia Leong's life did she foresee that a lockdown – being made to stay at home – would bring her closer to her friends.

Friday nights are movie nights for the Student Council of University of Wollongong (UOW) Malaysia KDU.

Tens upon tens of students from the campus will watch that pre-determined movie together online, wherever they physically are in the world.

"Then we will be in the same chat group, and we will prattle away and rant or rave or heap praises on the scenes or actors or actresses. And when an emotional scene comes, we'll cry together in the chat group," Leong said with a smile.

If nothing else, she said the bonding found in a large group of like-minded students watching a movie together – though not physically together – was vital to everyone's mental health.

"Lockdowns can be lonely. We have no one to talk to and it can be stressful mentally. So, our Student Council works hard to keep us all together," she said.

Leong is the UOW Malaysia KDU Student Council president on the university's Glenmarie campus in Shah Alam. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Business (Hons), specialising in Risk Management (she is in her second year, third semester), and like every tertiary student in the country, she is striving to earn her degree remotely.

But ever since she became the Student Council president this



The campus management emphasises the students' extra-curricular activities even during the pandemic.

February, her university life has gone beyond mere academics.

This unique involvement of the Student Council, said UOW Malaysia KDU's senior manager in charge of the Student & Alumni Centre, Mitchell Liong, is part of its Youth Empowerment Plan.

This plan was developed to encompass the primary attributes of the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2015 – 2025: Ethics and Spirituality, Leadership Skills, National Identity, Language Proficiency, Thinking Skills, and Knowledge.

"We think of ourselves as being a real-world university meeting real-world needs," he added.

Indeed, there are tens of groups, clubs and societies that UOW Malaysia KDU students join, and

the names of some of these bear testimony to the creativity and sense of play that only youthfulness can impart.

One club, called the Grapevine, is the joint for students in hospitality and culinary arts.

"Grapevine opens up ways for our students to build character and soft skills such as commitment, leadership, and effective communication," Liong said.

Another club with a name that bespeaks mystery and secrets is the Dice Collective. Members of this club play various games. Board games, computer games, you name it.

"They even play games with people from around the world. It might sound a little cliché, but the friends we make through clubs



University of Wollongong (UOW) Malaysia KDU believes that study is a priority but sometimes, students also need time off from academics.

and societies with the same interest may very well be the friends that we keep for life," Liong observed.

Liong said in the classes, the focus is unavoidably academic education, yet the campus knows that is not everything the students need. To learn and grow, an element of play has to feature strongly and that is why the campus management pays so much emphasis on the students' extra-curricular activities.

"Some of our students join the Art Farm, where they learn new skills, whether it is photography or design skills," Liong said.

■ For more information about UOW Malaysia KDU, visit <https://www.uowmkdu.edu.my/>




Kezzia Leong, UOW Malaysia KDU Student Council President.

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## Making a wise choice

THERE is no denying the importance of choosing the best possible university to set you on the path to a bright future.

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### A higher education qualification

As a student at AIMST University, you can look forward to an excellent level of education. This is assured as the curricula for most of the degree programmes are drawn from a world-renowned university in the UK.

Additionally, a culturally diverse and talented academic staff from various countries offers quality teaching and learning.

### World-class facilities and resources

Being a world-class university, you can expect exceptional facilities to support students' learning and teaching needs.

The campus is fully equipped with an advanced Dental Clinical Skills Centre, state-of-the-art Dental Hospital, and Modern Sports Complex equipped with a gymnasium, swimming pool, indoor courts, and outdoor running track.

### Affordability

AIMST University is a not-for-profit institution. To uphold its philosophy of providing quality education at an affordable cost, the university offers reasonable and comfortable on-campus accommodation, inclusive of three meals per day and laundry service.

In addition, it has created a financial aid programme to help ensure students can afford their education at AIMST.

### Better career prospects

The university will provide a range of opportunities to help students gain the experience, skill and knowledge required for quick employability upon graduation.

With quality education and training,



AIMST University believes quality education is the best investment for the future.

AIMST University students have secured internship opportunities at multinational companies (MNCs), such as B.Braun Medical Industries, Celestica Malaysia, Intel, Motorola, Sony, Osram, and Jabil.

### International collaboration and research

AIMST has established international collaborations with many partner-universities, enabling students to participate in global mobility programmes and research work.

Its cutting-edge research excellence has enabled the university to establish collaboration with several top-notch researchers from Boston Children Hospital, Harvard Medical School Teaching Hospital, University of Leicester, University of Copenhagen and Deakin University.

This provides an excellent opportunity for international exposure not only in academic pursuits and research but also cultural experience.

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■ For more information, visit [www.aimst.edu.my](http://www.aimst.edu.my) or call 012-639 8108 (Muganthini) or 012-594 8018 (Vinoth).





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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)

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Students in Malaysia study the same degree as on the UK campus and even have the opportunity to spend part of their studies in the UK.



Excellent facilities include IT-enabled classrooms, a large lecture theatre, fast Wi-Fi and a Learning Resource Centre.

# Ideal foundation for the future

STUDENTS in Malaysia with SPM and IGCSE results have the option of undertaking a 12-month foundation course which, upon successful completion, allows them to progress to Year One of an undergraduate degree.

This offers a quicker pathway to university than studying for STPM or A-levels, which is advantageous for those seeking to graduate as early as possible.

It is generally advisable to study the foundation course and undergraduate degree at the same institution, as a foundation qualification at one university may not be recognised for admission purposes at another university.

Students and parents are therefore advised to carefully research their preferred course of study at their preferred university.

This is not a decision to be taken lightly, as choosing a particular degree naturally provides a pathway to a certain set of career opportunities.

It is therefore important for students to consider as early as possible which careers are of interest to them and what they will find fulfilling.

## UK branch campus

A UK degree is desirable for many Malaysians given the international recognition afforded by a UK university.

University of Reading Malaysia (UoRM), is a wholly owned branch campus of the University of Reading in the UK which is consistently ranked in the Top 100 in the world for International Outlook by the Times Higher Education.

The branch campus in Malaysia was established in 2013 and first opened the doors to its state-of-the-art campus complex located in EduCity, Iskandar Puteri, in 2015.

Five of the UoRM's world-leading schools and institutions are represented at the Malaysia campus, including:

- Henley Business School
- School of Law
- School of the Built Environment
- School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences
- Foundation Studies and Language Institute

Students at UoRM get the best of both worlds – the same highly



The stunning University of Reading Malaysia campus in Educity Iskandar.

respected University of Reading UK degree closer to home and at a significantly lower cost compared to studying in the UK itself.

In fact, programme fees at UoRM are comparable with some local private universities and students may be eligible for a High Achievers Scholarship valued at up to RM33,840, equivalent of a 30% discount for the entire duration of study (subject to terms and conditions).

Furthermore, students at UoRM have flexible options to spend part of their studies at the University's award-winning Whiteknights UK campus which is only 25 minutes by train from London.

## The International Foundation Programme (IFP)

The International Foundation Programme (IFP) offered at UoRM is the same as that offered on the UK campus, and is an intensive 12-month programme that prepares students for the rigours of undergraduate study.

On successful completion of the IFP, students have the option for studying their degree either at UoRM or in the UK.



Foundation students receive close academic support in order to prepare them for university studies.

On the IFP, students have a choice of pathways that include:

- Accounting and Finance
- Finance and business
- Real Estate
- Quantity Surveying
- Psychology
- Law

Students 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 modules are specifically designed to help students prepare for that topic of study on their undergraduate degree.

## Transition from school to university

For some students, the transition from school to university is not an easy one. At the UoRM, the expectation is that students become independent learners who are able to think on their own two feet.

This can be challenging for those students who have become overly dependent on their teachers. For this reason, "Academic Skills" is a mandatory module on the 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 communication, 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.

Students are supported by an experienced and dedicated academic team. Each student is also assigned an academic tutor to provide one-on-one support and mentoring where required.

Our experience indicates that such support can 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. Safe to say, the majority of students successfully complete the IFP and are able to progress onto their undergraduate degree without any major issues.

## Admissions

Students may join the IFP in April, July or September each year. SPM and IGCSE students require a minimum of five credits (A-C) including any programme-specific requirements. A grade C in SPM English 1119, IGCSE English or IELTS 5.5 is required but students may complete the University English course if they do not meet the above English requirements.

■ For more information, visit [reading.edu.my](http://reading.edu.my), call or WhatsApp Kristinah +6016-2064 012 or email [my.enquiry@reading.edu.my](mailto:my.enquiry@reading.edu.my)



# Pathway to a management role

MANAGEMENT is the process of organising, planning, decision making, leading, motivation and controlling the human resources, financial, physical, and information resources of an organisation to reach its goals efficiently and effectively.

Good management is also fundamental in building great teamwork and the key to successful organisation.

With the aim of preparing those who are interested for a successful career in management and administration, the Diploma in Management at MSU College offers a broad business management education and equips students with the right soft skills.

The programme is specifically designed to provide students with all the tools required in management positions as well as exposure to basic components of organisational management including communication, leadership, marketing, and finance among others.

It also prepares students with the latest knowledge and skills, and equips them with high moral values and integrity while carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

A strong foundation in all related areas will provide students with a clear understanding of the fields they may want to

explore at bachelor's degree level.

The entry requirement to this two-and-a-half year programme is a minimum three credits in any subjects in the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) or its equivalent.

After completing the diploma, students are encouraged to begin a career or proceed to a second year bachelor in the same field or other related programmes at Management and Science (MSU) through the Faculty of Business Management Professional Studies (FBMP) with the options of credit transfer.

In line with MSU College's aspiration to produce a balanced, holistic and well-rounded graduate, a comprehensive entrepreneurial ecosystem and industry embedded programme are also deeply rooted as part of the initiatives to further enhance their soft skills and to ensure they are competent in the job market.

Apart from this, there are also other programmes available under its School of Hospitality, Education and Business Studies (SHB) such as Early Childhood Education, Accounting and English Language Teaching (ELT).

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

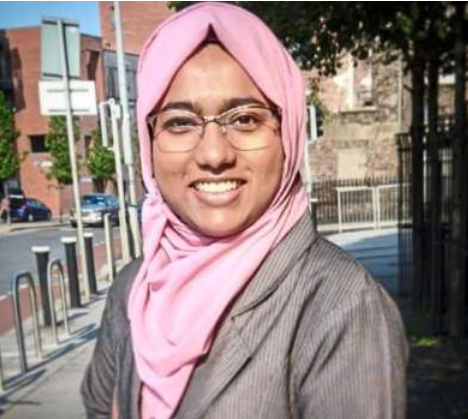


MSU College's Diploma in Management offers a broad business management education and equips students with the right soft skills.

## Exploring research opportunities



Chan began his journey in medicine with RUMC in 2016 and did his pre-clinical years at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), Dublin.



Sarah's journey in research began in Dublin during the summer of 2020.

AFTER patient care, research plays a fundamental role in the life of a medical student. A good research experience develops the tools and techniques helpful to patients and establishes guidelines that aid decision-making as a physician.

Medical students at RCSI and UCD Malaysia Campus (RUMC) are given opportunities to pursue research interests as early as during their pre-clinical years at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) or University College Dublin (UCD) through the Research Summer School programme.

The importance of conducting research is also well recognised at the university's Penang campus, which emphasises students' participation in research through various events and activities.

According to Dr Tan May Loong, RUMC vice dean of Research, the best way to learn about research is to be involved in it, saying, "At RUMC, getting involved in research includes joining a research team in Dublin during summer breaks, learning to understand research evidence through our evidence-based medicine course and exploring research on your own or with a team post-graduation with our Junior Research Fellowships."

Final-year medical student Kevin Chan Weng Kit had been actively involved in research since his pre-clinical days at RCSI. Chan took a year off after completing his third year to intercalate a master's degree in Clinical Neuroscience at King's College London.

His research interest is neuroscience – specifically motor neurone disease (MND), which was the major focus of his Master's dissertation.

"I have always been keen on research. While medicine is very much evidence-based, research is all about creating the evidence in the first place," said Chan.

Fathima Sarah Atheer, a fourth-year

medical student at RUMC who began her journey in research during her pre-clinical years in Dublin, was inspired by the idea of Covid-19 having a significant psychological impact. She worked with a perinatal psychiatrist, Dr Richard Duffy, from Rotunda Hospital Dublin, Ireland and worked on her research paper during the summer of 2020.

"Ultimately, we gathered a team to work on the research that we have now published. We hope our study would help lay a stepping stone towards the right direction of raising awareness and acknowledging the presence of the unseen distresses people face," said Sarah.

Kevin and Sarah were the prize winners of RUMC Research Day held on July 31 and were sponsored to present their papers at the International Undergraduate Medical Research Conference (IUMRC) on Nov 2 and 3.

Chan was one of the award recipients for Best Oral Presentation at the virtual conference.

To find out more about the internationally-recognised Irish medical degree offered by RUMC, join the Aspiring Doctors virtual event on Nov 20 from 4pm to 6pm.

Come discover what sets this undergraduate medicine programme apart. Register for the event at <https://bit.ly/2ZC-z4il>

RUMC students are recognised for practice in the US, Canada and others by the ECFMG (Educational Commission For Foreign Medical Graduates) and FAIRMER (Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research) with the institution listed as an Irish medical school in the World Directory of Medical Schools (WDOMS).

■ For enquiries, contact [enquiry@rcsiucd.edu.my](mailto:enquiry@rcsiucd.edu.my) or 04-217 1888.

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SEP

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- Dentistry  
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- Endodontics (PG Dip)  
KPT/JPT(R/7247/0043)05/2024 | MQA/PA12162  
APR
- Implant Dentistry (PG Dip)  
KPT/JPT(R/7247/0019)06/2026 | MQA/PA6111  
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JUL | SEP

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JUL | SEP
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KPT/JPT(N/7267/0030)02/2023 | MQA/PA9086  
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KPT/JPT(R/2726/0002)09/2029 | MQA/FA8176  
JUL | SEP
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KPT/JPT(R/2545/0014)09/2022 | MQA/A8228  
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KPT/JPT(R/7236/0125)04/2027 | MQA/FA8944  
SEP
- Nutrition  
KPT/JPT(R/2726/0001)06/2027 | MQA/FA1298  
JUL | SEP

### SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

- Analytical and Pharmaceutical Chemistry<sup>#</sup> (MSc)  
KPT/JPT(R/2-CD/4427/0001)01/2027 | MQA/FA1191  
MAR | SEP
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KPT/JPT(N/3457/1082)09/2023 | MQA/PSA11354  
KPT/JPT(N/3457/1090)12/2023 | MQA/PSA11355  
KPT/JPT(N/3457/1085)10/2023 | MQA/PSA11353  
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KPT/JPT(R/1457/0066)09/2025 | MQA/PSA05162  
KPT/JPT(R/1457/0066)09/2025 | MQA/PSA163  
KPT/JPT(R/1457/0070)09/2025 | MQA/PSA164  
MAR
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KPT/JPT(N/7207/0131)09/2025 | MQA/PSA13973  
KPT/JPT(N/7207/0130)09/2025 | MQA/PSA13972  
KPT/JPT(N/7207/0129)09/2025 | MQA/PSA13974  
SEP
- Molecular Medicine<sup>#</sup> (MSc)  
KPT/JPT(N-DL/5457/0101)09/2025 | MQA/PSA11357  
MAR | SEP
- Pharmacy Practice (Master)  
KPT/JPT(R/7277/0051)03/2024 | MQA/PSA02796  
MAR | SEP
- Public Health<sup>#</sup> (MSc)  
KPT/JPT(N-DL/7207/0118)09/2023 | MQA/PSA11356  
MAR | SEP
- Medical and Health Sciences (MSc / PhD)  
KPT/JPT(R/2720/0049)06/2026 | A10618  
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# Promising field for students

THE healthcare industry is constantly evolving, opening up new avenues for problem solving and tackling new challenges in the field around the world.

Medical professionals are often in the vanguard of addressing global healthcare concerns, playing increasingly important roles in all aspects. As universal healthcare challenges such as the Covid-19 pandemic and non-communicable diseases like cancer become more prevalent, there is a growing demand for more healthcare professionals. With such high demand, there has never been a more promising field for students than medicine today.

Bringing the best of Newcastle University to Malaysian shores, Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed) is at the forefront of producing practice-ready graduates.

In addition to its acclaimed undergraduate degrees in medicine and biomedical sciences, NUMed offers a Foundation in Biological and Biomedical Sciences programme, as well as opportunities for postgraduate study.

Prof Chris Baldwin, NUMed chief executive officer and provost, stated that the university's vision is to provide globally acclaimed medical programmes that are responsive to the evolving demands of Malaysia's healthcare system.

NUMed's foundation programme is a 12-month pre-undergraduate programme for students intending to pursue medicine, biological or biomedical sciences, or sciences at



Students at NUMed have the opportunity to learn from a highly accomplished and experienced international faculty.

undergraduate level. Subsequently, those who successfully complete this programme as required will be offered a place on either the university's Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme or 2+1 BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programme.

"Equivalent to its UK counterpart, NUMed's MBBS programme is recognised by both the General Medical Council, UK, and Malaysian Medical Council. While all five years of the programme are delivered in Malaysia, students will

have the option of studying for up to eight weeks at Newcastle University in the UK during their fourth year, or opting for an extra year in the UK for an intercalated research qualification at either bachelor's or master's level," Prof Baldwin shared.

On the other hand, the 2+1 BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences degree covers a broad range of topics such as biochemistry, genetics, physiology, microbiology, immunology, and pharmacology, with the goal of preparing students

to be future-ready biomedical researchers through ample research opportunities in a variety of fields throughout their studies.

"Students will spend the first two years of the programme in Malaysia, and the third year in the UK at one of Newcastle University's well acclaimed research institutes for research-led teaching and an intensive research project," Prof Baldwin added.

According to Premila Nair, NUMed chief operating officer, students will also benefit from the university's vast resources and best practices, including a high-calibre faculty.

Newcastle University is a world-leading partnership of research scientists, medical specialists, and teaching professionals, and a member of the distinguished Russell Group. Therefore, students have the opportunity to learn from and be mentored by a highly accomplished and experienced international faculty.

"The university also incorporates innovative teaching methods, such as student-centred learning, which fosters deep learning, as well as opportunities for students to improve their critical thinking, creativity, and confidence to graduate as well-rounded healthcare professionals," said Premila.

■ For more information about the programmes offered at NUMed, email [admissions@newcastle.edu.my](mailto:admissions@newcastle.edu.my), call 07-555 3800, WhatsApp 011-1231 5411 / 012- 784 9456 or visit <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/numed/>

## Fun ways to improve your English

WANT to improve your English without hitting the books? Check out these tips.

### Read the newspaper every day

The advantage of reading a paper is that the language is economical and to the point, which is useful for essay writing. Also, they tend to use common expressions which help you sound like a native. If you read the sections that deal with your studies (finance if you do economics, health if you're studying medicine, living if you're into architecture or art), you'll catch up on what's new too.

### Pick up a book that's a bit too advanced for you

Books deal with subjects in more detail than newspapers and are usually aimed at a specific market rather than a national one, so authors often use a larger vocabulary and more complex sentence structure.

By looking up unfamiliar words, you'll expand your vocabulary. By becoming used to reading longer, more complex sentences, you will advance your grasp of the language.

### Watch an English sitcom

Situation comedies tend to use colloquial English and a lot of the humour comes from wordplay. Both will help boost your understanding of contemporary English. Also, it will help you pick up various accents.



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Some people study best in 40-minute blocks while others are better with 90 minutes. Figure out what suits you and set your alarm so you stick to your schedule.

## Boost your study methods

WHEN you're studying, should you lock yourself in your room and stay there poring over your textbook until you've mastered your subject? Today, there are some researchers who think that this may not be the most efficient way to go about learning.

Studies suggest that memory is boosted by change, so making careful changes while learning may help you become more efficient.

A simple change of location can help give the impression of a rest break. For example, if you have statistics and history homework, you might do your statistics at your desk and then move to the library to do your history. The change of location is stimulating, giving you a little boost for that second session.

Similarly, sticking to one subject can be vital for mastering something complex but if you can split your work up into smaller learning objectives, juggling them about gives your mind a little respite – a break that

acts as an energy boost.

For this, you need to know your personal study style. Some people study best in 40-minute blocks while others are better with 90 minutes. Figure out what suits you and set your alarm so you stick to your schedule.

If you can, switch to a related topic at the end of the time to get the added advantage of a general overview of your subject. If you have physics and history homework, see if you can study Newton's theories and then follow up with looking at events around 1700.

If you're into complex subjects, you may want to devote a day to a particular subject. For example, Monday is for Literature while Tuesday is devoted to Chemistry.

For this to be most efficient, relate it to your energy pattern over the week. That way, you won't be struggling with something complex on your worst day.



# A rapidly growing profession

CHIROPRACTIC is a fast-growing profession and is now practised worldwide, including in Malaysia, and is the world's third-largest regulated healthcare profession and is one of the most commonly utilised alternatives to medical care.

The alternative practice is well regulated by law in over 40 international jurisdictions, such as the United States of America, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Thailand.

As a healthcare service, chiropractic offers a conservative and cost-effective management approach for neuromusculoskeletal disorders.

It is a healthcare profession that focuses primarily on the brain-body connection, especially the relationship between the spine and nervous system.

The nervous system is protected by the spine. Hence, any areas of dysfunction in the spinal joints may create an interruption to the normal communication between the nervous system and body.

These imbalances prevent the proper flow of information along the nerves, therefore preventing the brain from responding appropriately.

In 2005, the World Health Organization (WHO) developed a guideline on basic training and safety in chiropractic practice.

Locally, chiropractic is classified under the Malaysian Traditional and Complementary Medicine

(TCM) Division which was formed in 2004 by the Health Ministry (MOH).

On Jan 11, 2006, TCM Units were created in MOH facilities to implement the integration of traditional and complementary medicine within the national healthcare system.

The Traditional and Complementary Medicine Act 2016 (Act 775) was gazetted on March 10, 2016, and enforced on Aug 1, 2016.

Following the enforcement of Act 775, the Traditional and Complementary Medicine Council was formed on Jan 16, 2017, to regulate the practice of traditional and complementary medicine services in Malaysia.

With the recommendation from the Traditional and Complementary Medicine Council, the MOH has recognised chiropractic as a practice area under Act 775 on Aug 1, 2017.

On March 1, 2021, Phase 2 of Act 775 was enforced and started the process of licensing for TCM practitioners including chiropractic practitioners.

MOH also defines chiropractic as a primary healthcare profession concerned with the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disorders of the neuromusculoskeletal system and the effects of these disorders on general health.

There is an emphasis on manual techniques, including spinal adjustment and/or joint and soft tissue manipulation with a particular



Chiropractic is a fast-growing profession and is now practised worldwide, including in Malaysia.

focus on improving joint dysfunction, reducing pain and disability and promoting rehabilitation.

Chiropractic education is regulated by the Councils on Chiropractic Education International (CCEI), which has accrediting bodies for different regions in the world.

The chiropractic educational programme is a minimum of four years.

All accredited programmes provide a curriculum incorporating elements of basic sciences (e.g.

physiology, anatomy and biochemistry), clinical sciences (e.g. laboratory diagnosis, radiographic diagnosis, orthopaedics, neurology, and nutrition), and clinical intern experience.

IMU is the first and only university to offer the complete chiropractic educational programme in Malaysia as well as in all of South-East Asia.

The IMU Chiropractic Programme is accredited by the prestigious Council on Chiropractic

Education Australasia (CCEA) and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) by offering a four-year Chiropractic Programme which includes academic and clinical training.

Students have the option to complete the entire degree at IMU or study part of the programme here and then transfer to the partner universities, namely RMIT University in Australia, AECC University College or University of South Wales in the United Kingdom.

Chiropractic students are guided through the curriculum via a combination of lectures, discussions, practical laboratory sessions, as well as self-directed and simulated clinical settings.

From the first semester onwards, chiropractic students learn to enhance their sense of touch and develop manual skills to detect and correct problems with the joints of the body, especially those of the spine (neck, back and pelvis).

As students progress through the curriculum, these hands-on activities increase, ultimately, students are involved in the supervised diagnosis and management of actual patients.

In the final stages of training, students manage real patients throughout their care programme in a supervised chiropractic clinic.

■ For more information, please refer to [www.imu.edu.my](http://www.imu.edu.my) or email: [start@imu.edu.my](mailto:start@imu.edu.my) or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.

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# The unsung hero

NOT all heroes wear capes – some don lab coats. Management and Science University (MSU) alumnus, Muhammad Fairuz Shah Abd Karim, who goes by Che Shah, is a clinical lecturer and general surgeon at the Faculty of Medicine at a public university in Klang Valley. He shares about working at the epicentre of the Covid-19 pandemic in Selangor.

"I am not directly involved with Covid-19 patients or wards. However, we all are required to manoeuvre and approach things in a different way, even the normal routines we were used to. The challenge is definitely there, but we have to just work around it. As a general surgeon and clinical lecturer, I do my best to support in any way possible," he said.

MSU believes in continuous and progressive growth and never ceases to develop and extend its services and programmes.

Similarly, its MBBS programme has been garnering many accolades and attention since inception.

With its avant garde facilities and extensive programme outline, MSU's MBBS programme is one of a kind.

Che Shah's batch was the very first to travel to MSU's offshore campus in Bangalore, Karnataka.

"It was challenging to be the first ones there. The facilities at that time were very limited, but we managed and made full use of the resources available. We had a culture shock, but it only helped us



Dr Muhammad Fairuz: 'I love what I do, but just like any other career this has its own challenges too.'

grow as amazing doctors. Despite the challenges, we had opportunities to learn new things," he said.

Che Shah's journey of success began at his alma mater. He won multiple awards during his undergraduate study including a few Dean's List Awards by the International Medical School (IMS) and a Chancellor Gold Medal on graduation day.

This exemplary student presented a valedictorian speech during his convocation.

To top it off, he was an excellent student with remarkable merits in both academic and co-curricular activities.

The Bangalore Baptist Hospital in Karnataka, India also awarded him the Best Medical Student of the Year.

Among many unforgettable experiences Che Shah had during his stay at IMS' offshore campus in Bangalore, one he is grateful for is the campaign he conceived – The Hope Project: Our Children are the Future.

"This is one of the things I will always be proud of. The smiles we brought to the faces of the children were absolutely amazing. My classmates and I went to Soniya Nursery, Primary and High School in Bangalore to educate the children on personal hygiene and grooming.

"The children hailed from underprivileged communities in the rural areas of Bangalore. Everything they witnessed that day was foreign to them. We also contributed some funds and donated a lot of books to build a library in that area," he said.

"I love what I do, but just like any other career, this has its own challenges too. Among the many is that surgeries are unpredictable, meaning I have to always be on my toes.

"Surgeries are not just about what happens inside the operation theatre. I have to consult the patient prior to the surgery, do the operation and follow-up post-op.

"We as surgeons are committed to a patient until they heal completely. We are a part of the



Che Shah says that as a general surgeon and clinical lecturer, he does his best to support in any way possible.

process as much as the patient is and have to be ready to make sacrifices. We sometimes miss family time and some of us could even be unfortunate to not witness our kids grow," he added.


Che Shah is in the middle of gazettement, transitioning from his master's degree to becoming a full-fledged licensed specialist. His next goals are to be registered as a specialist and recognised by the National Specialist Registry, and pursue a specialisation in urology in 2022.

The Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) is a five-year programme offered through the International Medical School (IMS) at the MSU main campus in Shah Alam and its off-shore campus in Bangalore, India, which is Malaysia's first medical school to

receive a five-year accreditation from the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC). In addition, MSU's MBBS programme is recognised by Medical Council of India (MCI), Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) and Maldives Medical and Dental Council (MMDC).


Intakes for the MBBS programme are in April and October – qualified students are required to sit for the Medical Entry Test (MET) at the MSU campus in Shah Alam to determine their aptitude for the programme.

■ Want to be a doctor and qualified to sit for the Medical Entry Test (MET) at MSU? For more details as well as information on scholarships and fee waiver; call 03-5521-6868, email [enquiry@msu.edu.my](mailto:enquiry@msu.edu.my), or visit [www.msu.edu.my](http://www.msu.edu.my)



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