

ON the brink of expanding its network of programmes, University of Cyberjaya recently welcomed its fifth vice-chancellor and chief executive, Prof Dr Zabidi Hussin.

Nurturing competent nurses

As vice-chancellor, Prof Dr Zabidi is responsible to manage and develop the university and lead the university's academic and administrative departments.

Prof Dr Zabidi graduated with an MBBS from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, England in 1985. His keen interest in children's health led him to obtain his Diploma in Child Health (DCH), Glasgow in 1987. In 1997, he received his membership to the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health in 1997.

With his extensive experience in teaching, research and leadership, Prof Dr Zabidi's field of specialisation lies in paediatric neurology and medical education with a special interest in bioethics and communication skills.

He is also the honorary editor for the *Advances in Medical Education and Practice* and is at present the Member of Council for the Malaysian Medical Council.

Prof Dr Zabidi serves as a council member of the Malaysian Medical Council, member of the Ethics Expert Panel for the European Research Agency and a member of the Malaysian Qualification Agency's accreditation panel for the Malaysian and International Accreditation.

He is Head of the Child Health Cluster for Malaysia's National Professors Council and a visiting professor for Universitas Jeneral Soedirman, Indonesia and the American University of Sovereign Nations, USA.

Prof Dr Zabidi has previously served in senior roles in Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) as dean of the School of Medicine (1999-2005) and General Manager of the USAINS Tech Services (2005-2016) while serving as a Professor of Paediatrics at USM.

He was also formerly the vice-chancellor of Perdana University and the pro vice-chancellor, academic at IMU.

Prof Dr Zabidi will be taking over as the vice-chancellor at a time when University of Cyberjaya is fast growing into a household name in the Malaysian education industry.

Late last year, the university also established its Faculty of Nursing as an extension to their wide-ranging programmes.

The university offers Diploma in Nursing as well as Bachelor of Nursing to prepare competent, compassionate, and qualified



University of Cyberjaya inked a partnership with IHH Healthcare Singapore to produce more nurses for the healthcare industry.

nurses, ready to enter the job market to serve individuals and communities in health care and home care settings.

To further benefit its nursing students, University of Cyberjaya recently signed a Collaboration Agreement with IHH Healthcare Singapore to give the chance for students to be fully sponsored Diploma and Bachelor of Nursing students at the University, including expenses for accommodation and cost of living for six years. The agreement was forged with the hope of further elevating nursing careers and addressing shortages currently experienced by the healthcare industry in the South-East Asia region.

This partnership also offers training and employment opportunities for undergraduate nurses and gives them access to join some of the best healthcare operators in the region. IHH Healthcare Singapore is part of IHH Healthcare Berhad, one of the world's largest healthcare services networks with a vision to become the world's most trusted healthcare services network. It is the largest private healthcare provider in Singapore, operating wellknown healthcare brand names like Gleneagles, Mount Elizabeth, and Parkway.

"Nurses are highly trained professionals and first responders in the healthcare industry. We train our students to become the best at what they do, but it doesn't stop there. We have a strong passion in building holistic, competent, and professional graduates. We focus on empowering our students to lead communities while having the passion to care for others," said Prof Raja Lexshimi, dean of the Faculty of Nursing.

■ Start your nursing journey with the University of Cyberjaya. The March 2023 intake is now open for applications. To find out more about UoC's programmes and scholarships, visit *cyberjaya.edu.my/ studynursing* or message its education counsellors via WhatsApp at 011-1112 3344 or email studywithus@cyberjaya.edu.my



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7 May 2023 @ Miri 12noon - 6pm | Pullman Hotel Miri

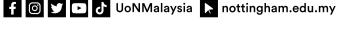
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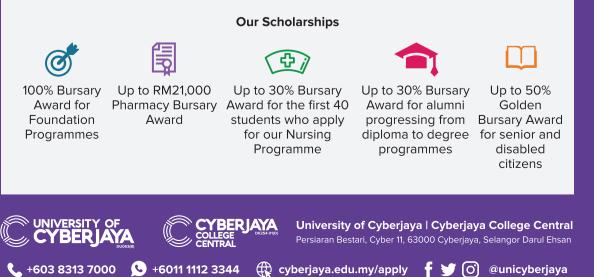
Gateway to the world with AUSMAT



The Sunway AUSMAT programme is not only for students who wish to continue their studies with Australian universities, but it is also a gateway to the world.



Medicine | Pharmacy | Psychology | Occupational Safety & Health | Physiotherapy Biomedical Engineering Technology | Homeopathy | Medical & Health Science | Cosmetics Business Administration | Accounting | Information Technology | Healthcare | Nursing



TO take the next education step after SPM, a school-leaver has to make many important decisions. Should you choose an examination- or coursework-based pre-university programme? Is the programme globally recognised?

There's so much to consider if you are planning to pursue tertiary studies overseas.

Choosing the right pre-university programme is important as it prepares students for success in this 21st-century world. This includes a programme that can develop their soft skills such as communication, research, and time management, and learn to use educational technologies for more efficient learning.

The Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT) programme at Sunway College is a Year 12 curriculum of Western Australia that is specifically tailored to prepare students with academic strength and essential skills to thrive in university.

The AUSMAT programme assesses students with a unique and balanced assessment structure that comprises 50% schoolbased assignments prepared by the AUSMAT lecturers, and 50% external examinations that is administered by the Department of Education, Western Australia.

Sunway AUSMAT offers a variety of subjects, hundreds of subject combinations, and great flexibility for students to explore their diverse academic and career interests.

Students can choose five subjects from three electives categories – core elective, academic elective, and professional skill elective. Through the choice of subjects under the professional skill elective – such as computer science, psychology, engineering studies, food science and technology – students can have a better understanding of their future career choices.

"I get to try subjects such as economics, psychology and business which we were not exposed to back in secondary school. It gave me the opportunity to understand the background of what I will be studying in the future," says Roshni Sivanaesan, an AUSMAT student.

To help prepare students transition from school to university, Sunway AUSMAT reflects the life of a university student.

While the semester is ongoing, students go through a series of assessments including quiz, test, assignment, presentation, practical test and exams. As a coursework-based programme, this enables students to improve their scores throughout the academic year.

With such a curriculum, students practise and learn to manage multiple deadlines and tasks as they develop time management and organisation skills – a critical success factor.

AUSMAT stimulates students' interest and equips them with critical 21st-century skills such as problem-solving, analytic thinking and creativity, and skills for lifelong learning.

In addition, through the evaluation of different skills through school assessments like tests, investigations, assignments, research projects and presentations, students develop self-awareness to learn about their strengths and weaknesses and identify the areas of improvement.



'AUSMAT students receive comprehensive academic and professional skills that align with 21st-century SDGs,' says Vanitha.

The programme utilises a blended learning approach which combines a traditional classroom setting with remote learning via an e-learning platform. All learning resources are digitally available on Microsoft OneNote and AUSMAT Digital Library.

With the current generation exposed to information overload, the educators at Sunway AUSMAT understand it is crucial to guide students on how to distinguish what is right and wrong in the digital world, through compulsory workshops under the AUSMAT Digital Enrichment Series.

With Sunway's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the AUSMAT programme integrated the SDGs into learning content and assignments for every subject, to educate students on these goals.

"Through a carefully crafted regimen of academic rigour, each AUSMAT student will receive comprehensive experience in academic and professional skills that align with 21st-century SDGs as defined by the United Nations and Digital Global Citizenship through the Digital Enrichment Series," shares Vanitha Satchithanadan, AUSMAT programme director at Sunway College.

Sunway AUSMAT is the largest overseas provider of the Western Australia Certificate of Education (WACE) in Malaysia, with more than 30 years of proven track record of academic excellence.

The programme is not only for students who wish to continue their studies with Australian universities, but it is also a gateway to the world.

Students will receive the Western Australia Certificate of Education (WACE) upon completing the programme which is a globally recognised certificate to enter competitive higher education in Canada, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, the United Kingdom, the European Union

and the United States. Members of the AUSMAT academic staff would also provide academic advisory for students to support and guide them in achieving the educational goals in college. Students will also be guided with the required steps for their university placement applications.

■ Sunway College and Sunway University will be having an Open Day on March 25-26 (10am-4pm). Find out more about Sunway AUSMAT programme at the Open Day. To register, visit *sunway.edu.my/ openday* the high

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degree

The One

Higher Education 3



Gain a UK design degree right here

WITH increasing educational ties between Malaysia and the United Kingdom, there is no doubt that there are more students seeking education with a better level of quality abroad. Students interested in a design education from the UK can now pursue degree studies locally at The One Academy's Bandar Sunway campus.

In addition to offering exceptional creative arts diploma programmes in Advertising & Graphic Design, Digital Media Design, Digital Animation with Game Development, Illustration (Movie & Game Art), Film Visual Effects (VFX), Interior Design, Fine Arts and ESMOD Paris Fashion Design & Pattern Making, The One Academy has for many years partnered with the prestigious University of Hertfordshire, UK, to offer 3 + 0 degree programmes in Graphic Design, Digital Media Design & Interior Architecture and Design.

The University of Hertfordshire is an established name in the UK design education scene and has an outstanding reputation for its distinctive teaching techniques in a wide range of fields. Coupled with The One Academy's advantages in practical skills and creative provess, this collaboration has not only been able to cultivate students who are capable of creating high-quality work but are also proficient in the implementation of creative ideas.

According to Tatsun Hoi, founder and principal of The One Academy, "In line with our 'Masters Train Masters' philosophy, the key to our teaching is to offer international quality education based on an industry-driven syllabus and practical coaching approach.

"Our UK Design Degree programmes are an extension of our efforts over the years to not only offer high-quality education but also provide real industry-related training. With the extensive industry network of these two institutions and the firm foundation staffed by industry professionals, I am confident students will benefit from any of our

international degrees." Dr Stephen Partridge, University of Hertfordshire's Dean of School of Creative Arts, said that "the creative industries are a huge growth area, one of the fastest expanding sectors, and your development will enable you to thrive within it." Educational alliances like these are sure to

benefit the young creative talent in the region. By bringing together the experience of two highly successful art and design institutions in the field, Malaysia will definitely profit from the enhanced education for young people at the undergraduate level.

BA (Hons) Digital Media Design explores the digital domain, including multimedia platforms, mobile devices, augmented and virtual realities, and establishes a rich. hybrid area of study for the 21st century.

By using practice-based approaches and theory-led methodologies through subjects such as web-based content, social media systems and interactive installations, the programme aims to provide the students with the necessary knowledge and skills to become part of the digital revolution.

BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design allows students to gain, develop and demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and skills with focus on the creative improvement of existing and new buildings and spaces.

Students will learn about how the objects and spaces that make up our everyday land-scapes provide pleasure, give meaning to and can enhance the quality of people's lives.

They will develop an understanding of how people and activities interact with the material, environmental, sensual, emotional, functional and cultural qualities of a specific space and situation and how

interior architects can design better places. BA (Hons) Graphic Design aims to create designers that are skilled in graphic arts, and would be able to bring their skills beyond the boundaries of conventional graphic

design. From being able to adapt to entrepreneurial and start-up cultures, to incorporating their work in the digital and technological age, our graphic designers seek to solve design problems that run across a variety of fields such as creative departments, brand building, digital brand experience, social media, marketing products and services, as well as bringing about social change.

In addition to meeting the needs of stu-dents, the 3 + 0 UK degree programmes also meet the needs of parents. Offered locally at the Bandar Sunway campus of The One Academy, these degree courses save twothirds of the normal cost that would have been incurred if one chooses to study in the UK.

However, with the flexibility to complete their final year either in Malaysia or in the UK, these programmes certainly offer opportunities for those who desire the experience of pursuing a quality education abroad as well.

Since this collaboration was launched, many graduates from The One Academy University of Hertfordshire have graduated with distinction.

With the guidance of competent lecturers, they have successfully organised exhibitions to showcase their graduate work through The One Academy Degree Show where a variety of works comparable to industry standards have been showcased. Most of the talented graduates now work

in international companies and this emphasises the unparalleled advantages the degree courses offer in this competitive world.

The degree courses are now open for intake; interested students can get more information from The One Academy's professional counsellors.

The One Academy is committed to providing the best art education programmes and continues to nurture its students passionately through its "Masters Train Masters" coaching philosophy, which has been practised for over 30 years, by providing diploma and degree courses namely Advertising & Graphic Design, Digital Animation, Digital Media Design, Film Visual Effects, Interior Architecture and Design, Illustration, Fine Arts and Paris Fashion Design & Pattern Making.

For more information on The One Academy, visit www.toa.edu.my or call 03-7875 5510 or email info@toa.edu.my

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International Recognition of Excellence

For over three decades, students' international achievements and providing world-class education has always been The One Academy's first priority. Receiving international recognition for our efforts, we pledge to continue holding steadfast to our "**Masters Train Masters**" teaching philosophy and together with our exceptional team of educators, provide unmatched creative education to boost Malaysia's creative economy and become Asia's creative hub.

The One Academy International Standard Diploma & Degree Programmes

Computer Science & Game Design KL (N/481/4/0836)(10/26)(MOA/PA14945), (N/481/8/0831)(3/26)(MOA/PA14163)* & (N/213/4/0376)(R/26)(MOA/PA14946), (N/213/6/0366)(12/26)(MOA/PA14164)* Computer Science in Real-Time Interactive Simulation KL (N/481/6/0832)(3/26)(MOA/PA14161)*_____ Digital Animation with Game Development KL (R3/213/4/0289)(11/26)(A7675) & PG (R2/213/4/0222)(8/25)(A11080)

Film Visual Effects (VFX) Film Visual Effects (VFX) Illustration, Movie & Game Art KL (R3/213/4/0327)(11/28)(A7674) & PG (R2/213/4/0219)(3/25)(A11082) Interior Architecture & Design

KL (R2/214/4/0185)(10/29)(A7587), (R/581/6/0045)(2/24)(MQA/FA11216) & PG (R2/214/4/0132)(4/25)(A11083) **Paris Fashion Design & Pattern Making** KL (R2/214/4/0056)(10/29)(MQA/FA1580)

KL (R2/214/4/0056)(10/29)(MOA/FA1580) Advertising & Graphic Design KL (R2/214/4/0152)(4/26)(A1826), (R2/213/6/0135)(11/23)(A9123) & PG (R2/213/4/0220)(3/25)(A11079) Digital Media Design KL (R3/213/4/0290)(11/28)(A7609), (R2/214/6/0086)(10/23)(A9124) & PG (R2/214/4/0221)(5/25)(A11081)

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*Courses Coming Soon

For more information, contact us via 🕥 +6012 551 0639

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THE ÔNE ACADEMY | MASTERS TRAIN MASTERS



Students learn clinical skills to solidify their degree-level medical education in their final year.

THE STAR. THURSDAY 23 MARCH 2023

Start your medical education journey

SINCE the Covid-19 pandemic, medical and healthcare professionals have been in need more than ever. The Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) estimated that Malaysia needs 28,000 more medical specialists by 2030.

Higher Education

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Should there be a lack of medical professionals, access to healthcare will be limited, affecting all of us. So, if you're keen on pursuing MBBS in Malaysia, you're in luck.

suing MBBS in Malaysia, you're in luck. However, one should not take this profession lightly. Behind any successful surgery or medical breakthrough, medical professionals contribute their expertise to save lives.

However, in high-stress situations, even the best medical professionals can struggle if there is no effective leadership to guide them through a crisis.

The need for more astute leadership in healthcare is the reason why Management & Science University (MSU) is offering the exclusive Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme.

Among the many medical schools in Malaysia, MSU stands out for its ability to produce well-rounded and qualified medical doctors.

Being among the best medical schools in Malaysia is not easy, but MSU has made it look effortless over the years. Through attentive lectures and instructions at MSU, its medical students develop essential soft skills, which include critical decision-making, surgical teamwork, crisis management, effective communication and a deep understanding of medical knowledge.

Studying MBBS at MSU

Studying MBBS is exciting but, at the same time, it requires complete dedication and focus for a prolonged period. This is because the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) is a five-year programme.

It is offered at the MSU main campus in Shah Alam and offshore campus in Bangalore, India, which is Malaysia's first medical school to receive a five-year accreditation from the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC).

MSU's MBBS programme is also recognised by the India National Medical Commission (NMC), Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC), and the Maldives Medical and Dental Council (MMDC).

In addition, the MBBS curriculum complies with MMC guidelines and presents a continually expanding level of medical experience.

To ensure students get the maximum knowledge out of their learning, MSU has designed its five-year medical course into two study phases through its International Medical School (IMS).

In Phase I, also known as the pre-Clinical phase (Years 1 & 2), students will be exposed to basic medical sciences through systembased modules.

Phase II, also known as the clinical phase (Years 3, 4 & 5), is conducted through the discipline-based posting that includes Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatric, Psychiatry, Primary Care, Orthopaedics, Emergency Medicine, and Short Postings.

Students spend their first and second years learning the fundamentals of medical sciences. In their third year, they acquire fundamental clinical knowledge and abilities, and in their fourth year, they spend time learning about various medical specialties. Students learn clinical skills to solidify their degree-level medical education in their final year.

MSU emphasises clinical communication skills for its MBBS course. Hence, MSU's MBBS course is designed to give students numerous opportunities to develop their clinical skills through community engagement visits to medical practices, community care facilities, and hospitals.

Upon completing their MBBS degrees, the new doctors must register with the Public Services Department (JPA) and undergo a two-year housemanship at selected public hospitals while supervised by MOH.

MSU medical students have the privilege of completing their clinical training at two major referral hospitals in Malaysia: Hospital Tengku Ampuan Rahimah in Klang and Hospital Sungai Buloh.

State-of-the-art facilities

When training future doctors, having state-of-the-art facilities for practical training significantly affects a student's overall educational experience.

As such, MSU proceeded to build its own Medical Centre and became Malaysia's first private university with its own private specialist hospital and up-to-date healthcare services to the public as well as job opportunities for its medical and health science graduates.

Honouring its tagline 'Caring, Healing, Educating' through accessible and integrated medical services, MSU Medical Centre is equipped with 250 beds in 14 levels with six operation theatres, six labour rooms, five intensive-care units, four dental clinics, specialist clinics and day care facilities.

Be a well-rounded doctor

Due to the pandemic, the demand for doctors has grown massively over the last couple of years. So, if you're interested in studying medicine, you don't have to look far.

At MSU, students study medical courses at a top-tier institution, shadowing top researchers and practitioners across various specialties and acquiring invaluable well-rounded experiences.

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 MBBS programme.

Alternatively, MSU's Foundation in Science Biology/Health Science offers a fast-track pre-university programme that prepares for entry into the MBBS programme.

■ For more information on scholarships and fee waiver, call 03-5521-6868, email enquiry@msu.edu.my, or visit *www.msu.edu. my* DATA is playing an increasingly critical role in the world today, and the demand for professionals with the skills to analyse, interpret, and communicate data is growing.

As a result, the Bachelor of Applied Data Science degree has emerged as a popular choice for individuals seeking a career in this exciting field.

Monash University Malaysia's Bachelor of Applied Data Science is designed to develop your technical know-how in approaching data challenges and building insight to action from large volumes of data and transmitting it to research, industries and society.

Bachelor of Applied Data Science at Monash University

The Bachelor of Applied Data Science is a three-year undergraduate degree programme designed to prepare students for careers in data analysis, data management, data visualisation, machine learning and business intelligence.

This multidisciplinary programme typically combines elements of information technologies, mathematics and applied studies in science, giving students a broad

understanding of the tools and techniques used in data science.

your analytical skills and advance your ability to apply key information technology, mathematical concepts and methods. These skills will be elaborated through studio-based learning using authentic case studies from industry partners and examples drawn from STEM areas, business, law, the humanities and social sciences.

These studies will provide the foundation required to advance cross-disciplinary analytical

Students will undertake a sequence of applied studies in biological science and genetics, science, biotechnology, food and nutrition, forensic genetics, and health and human physiology.

will ensure you can explore new and diverse areas and develop core

A path to a rewarding career

The programme will develop

thought.

chemical sciences, environmental

The selection of available studies



The Bachelor of Applied Data Science is designed to prepare students for careers in data analysis, data management, data visualisation, machine learning and business intelligence.

strengths in studies related to data applications.

In addition to the disciplinary expertise, you will develop an appreciation for the culture of your selected discipline, the development of ideas in a given subject area, and the contexts in which this is applied.

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PROGRAMME

OPEN DAY

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JPT/BPP(K)(R3/010/3/0122/A8757)04/28

For more details, contact us at

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The Bachelor of Applied Data Science programme provides students with hands-on learning opportunities through internships, projects and other real-world experiences.

Career opportunities Data science is a rapidly growing field, and graduates with a Bachelor of Applied Data Science degree are in high demand. Companies and organisations in various industries seek individuals with strong data analysis, problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

Some potential career paths for graduates include: > clinical trial management

> drug discovery and

development > analytical/biomedical

chemistry > clinical science and research

management > medical, healthcare and

insurance industry > project management and

consultancy

> food product/process development

SUNW COLLEC

> regulatory affairs and quality assurance

> TURN TO PAGE 9

A memorable journey

IMU graduate Nicole Foo (pic) shares her education journey at IMU from Foundation in Science

to a degree in pharmacy: "I graduated with a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) degree programme from the International Medical University (IMU) in 2022. I chose IMU as my study platform back in 2017, when I first started my Foundation in Science (FIS), as I believed that IMU is not just a well-known and well-established health sciences university, but it's also a university that is alive and full of joyous, warm, and compassionate people.

During my first year at IMU, doing my FIS was the hardest initial phase of my journey, but it became an unforgettable year which successfully prepared me for my next journey in life.

After I completed my FIS, I finally started the BPharm (Hons) programme in September 2018

I always believe that the IMU BPharm (Hons) programme not only instilled in me the skills and professionalism that are crucial for my future career, but also attitude and self-esteem, that are important in life.

In my final year of the BPharm (Hons) programme at IMU, we had the opportunity to undergo attachments at the hospital and community pharmacy settings and from the experience during these attachments, I realised that community pharmacy was interesting as this is where I got to meet different customers with

different conditions every day. The experience at the hospital pharmacy attachment was different, where there were endless patients every day with different complications, and they all required the help of a team of healthcare professionals. These exposures indeed put me in a dilemma when it came to deciding for my journey ahead.

To overcome that, I sought opinions from lecturers, pharmacists, family members, friends, and peers and in the end realised that there was no right or wrong decision and it is all about having faith in yourself and knowing what you want to achieve in life.

Finally, I decided to work in



the hospital pharmacy setting, as I wanted to challenge myself and be a part of the team in the hospital.

Fortunately, I was awarded a scholarship in my Semester 8 which I could never forget. The hard work and determination all these years had finally paid off.

Now, I have the opportunity to work and continue learning in a private hospital pharmacy setting.

At IMU, students have the option to complete the entire pharmacy programme locally at IMU or credit transfer to the University of Otago, New Zealand or University of Tasmania, Australia.

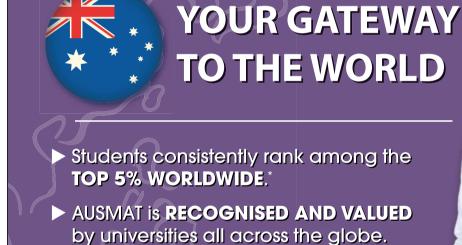
These international partnerships are a clear testament of the alignment of IMU's innovative education to global standards.

Additionally, students who opt to complete the entire degree in Malaysia also have the opportunity to go overseas for elective placement.

The commencement for the Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) programme is in July and September. If you are inspired by a diverse career that is involved with the safe and effective use of medicines, make an online application today to study IMU's pharmacy programme.

If you have just completed vour SPM and do not have pre-university qualification, consider enrolling in the one-year IMU Foundation in Science, the preferred foundation and direct route for entry into any of the University's dégree programmes.

For more information, refer to www.imu.edu.my or email start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.



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Woon Chun Shian,

AUSMAT student





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Diverse range of career opportunities

UNIVERSITY of Reading Malaysia (UoRM), the international branch campus of the University of Reading UK, held its Career Fair on Feb 8, the first physical fair since

the start of the global pandemic. The varsity was pleased to welcome many reputable employers to the fair, including EY, Deloitte, Public Bank, RHB Bank, Sunway Group, AIA Group, PWC, EcoWorld and Biocon amongst others. In addition, students benefited

from a series of scheduled career talks in which business leaders and HR professionals shared their advice and industry insights.

Employers also had the opportunity to interview students for open positions.

Provost Prof Wing Lam was delighted with the turnout at the event.

"We are excited to see the diverse range of career opportunities available to our students.

"There is certainly no shortage of opportunities for students with the right skills and qualities. At the same time, employers are in urgent need of high-quality graduate talent that can contribute to their organisational needs and business goals."

Career-focused programmes

The University of Reading is renowned for its high-quality teaching, research and graduate employability, and is consistently ranked in the Top 100 in the world for International Outlook by the Times Higher Education (2023). The university's branch campus in



University of Reading Malaysia's annual Career Fair brings together reputable employers and students.

Malaysia was established in 2013, offering the same University of Reading degree and high-quality learning experience but closer to home.

Located in EduCity Iskandar, the iconic, state-of-the-art campus provides students with excellent learning facilities including IT-enabled classrooms, lecture theatre, learning resource centre and student social areas all conveniently under one roof. Students can study with five of the university's world-leading schools and institutions, including:

> Henley Business School

> School of Law

> School of the Built Environment > School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences > Foundation Studies and Language Institute

With a focus on quality rather than quantity, the campus offers a select number of the university's 'signature' degree courses in professional disciplines that provide students with excellent career prospects:

> Âccounting and finance > Finance and business management

> Management and business



Prof Wing Lam said employers are looking for graduates both with the right hard and soft skills to make an impact in the workplace.

> Law

> Psychology (with or without a one year professional placement) > Quantity surveying

> Real estate

Further programme details can be found at www.reading.edu.my/ programmes.

Excellent employability

All of the degrees carry relevant industry and professional recognition, enhancing the employability of graduates. For example, last year, 100% of Accounting and Finance finalists received job offers before graduation and two-thirds

of real estate students received job offers before graduation. Prof Lam explained why gradu-

ate employability is a key focus at University of Reading Malaysia.

"Employers seek high-quality graduates that possess not only academic skills, but who can transfer those skills to solve industry problems and come up with creative solutions.

"Employers also seek graduates with soft skills including communication, collaboration and teamwork. If we can assist our students to grow and develop holistically, it will significantly enhance their career prospects."

Open day on April 1

Applications are now open for April, July and September 2023 entry. Students may be eligible for a High Achievers Scholarship based on their academic results. The university is holding its

Open Day at campus on April 1. Prospective students and parents can contact the university for a consultation or to arrange a campus visit at their convenience.

You can call 07-268 6205, or WhatsApp *https://wa.me/* 60167725400 or email my.enquiry@reading.edu.my.

Visit its website or follow it on social media:

> www.reading.edu.my > https://www.facebook.com/uniofreadingmalaysia

> https://www.instagram.com/uniofreadingmalaysia/





Malaysian universities in the QS World University Rankings 2023

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MANAGEMENT & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY (MSU) DU019(B) University Drive, Off Persiaran Olahraga, Section 13, 40100 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

Higher Education 7



Kishern, a graduate of the Bachelor of Business (Hons) in Logistics and Supply Chain Management, obtained the TAR UMT – Jinbodhi Bursary not only once but twice throughout his academic journey at TAR UMT.



Ho is currently working as a customer service executive. She highlights that thanks to TAR UMT's financial aid, she was able to graduate with a bachelor's degree and that helped open up more job opportunities in her career path.

Financial aid a boon to students

AT Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT), the private institution of higher learning believes that everyone should have an equal chance to pursue quality and affordable education, including students from underprivileged families.

The institution has been offering various kinds of financial aid for students to help lighten their parents' financial burden and this could not be more crucial especially post-pandemic.

There are many types of financial aid available at TAR UMT. One of them is the TAR UMT Student Loan Fund. It is high in demand because it is interest-free and the loan covers the entire tuition fees of the recipients. To date, there are 119 interest-free revolving student loan funds and since its inception in 1979, close to 15,000 interest-free loans have been awarded to date, with over RM57mil disbursed.

Among the many recipients of the Student Loan Fund, Sheryl Ho Xin Yi who benefited from the TARC – Toh Kim Eng Student Loan Fund, had much to say about it.

"Ever since I got the student loan fund, I did not have to worry about whether I would be able to pay my class fees when the new semester comes.

"I still did part-time work from time to time to make a better living, but thanks to the loan, I had less stress and more rest time, which gave me more energy and time to focus on my studies and complete my assignments," she said.

Ho comes from a single-parent family and the financial situation in her household was not positive when she first joined TAR UMT. "My mother did her best to pay for my

food expenses and rental fees, but the semester fees were a bit too heavy for us.

"I initially applied for the PTPTN loan but my application was not successful. I went for counselling at the Department of Student Affairs (DSA) at TAR UMT and that is when they suggested I apply for the Student Loan Fund," she shared.

Another financial aid option is the TAR UMT Prihatin Flexi Payment Plan which aims to bring financial relief to students by providing greater flexibility in the first semester fees payment, where students only make an initial payment of RM263 to begin their tertiary education at TAR UMT.

The balance of fees shall be paid by instalment up to Week 5 or 9 of study, depending on the intake. This plan is offered to students who have received offers of admission for Foundation, Diploma and Bachelor Degree programmes for all 2023 intakes.

Besides that, there are many scholarships or bursaries available for those who are qualified. Some of it include The Star Education Fund, Sin Chew Daily Education Fund, Nanyang Tertiary Education Fund, TAR UMT – TAA Scholarship, TAR UMT – TAA Scholarship (Top Glove), TAR UMT – Jinbodhi Bursary, TAR UMT Sports Scholarship and Bursary for state/national players. Apart from that, as part of their philan-

thropic efforts, many corporations and organisations extend their help to deserving TAR UMT students by providing scholarships and grants, namely Yayasan Ann Joo Undergraduate Scholarship, Hotayi for TAR UMT Scholarship, Kuok Foundation Study Grants and C Y Tan Foundation, just to name a few.

Kishern Asok Kumar, a loan recipient of the TAR UMT – Jinbodhi Bursary, shared his experience in applying for the bursary.

^{*}I managed to obtain this bursary for the entire duration of my studies from my diploma right up to bachelor's degree, which spans over four years in total.

"I applied for the bursary and submitted the necessary forms and files to DSA. I was then informed that I was shortlisted and was required to attend an interview.

"I went through the interview and was asked various questions as to why I deserve the bursary. After that, I was informed that I had been chosen to receive the TAR UMT – Jinbodhi Bursary."

He shared: "At first, I was apprehensive in applying for the bursary but my financial burden left me with no choice. I am glad I decided to go for it as I was much more focused on my studies and I was really happy because I did not have to work parttime to sustain myself. With that, I could concentrate on doing well at university."

For students who scored excellent academic results, they will stand to benefit from the TAR UMT Merit Scholarship. The generous scholarship which covers up

The generous scholarship which covers up to 100% waiver of tuition fees will be awarded automatically based on academic merit. Up until now, 62,778 students have been awarded the merit scholarship amounting to approximately RM186.5mil.

TAR UMT also offers financial incentives such as sibling discount as a form of additional support to parents with two or more children studying at TAR UMT. Under the sibling discount, students registering for the first time and with sibling(s) who are full-feepaying student(s) in the same semester may be eligible for a discount of RM1,000 off their first semester tuition fee.

■ To find out more about studying at TAR UMT, visit it during its 2023 Open Day on April 15-16, May 20-21 and May 27-28 at TAR UMT KL campus and/or all TAR UMT branches nationwide.

Alternatively, you can find out more about its programmes by visiting its website at *www.tarc.edu.my*. Prospective students are also encouraged to apply online at *www.tarc. edu.my*. Various financial aid and merit scholarships are available for qualified students.

6G METAVERSE BIG DATA BLOCKCHAIN AI.ROBOTICS

World's Leading USA Computer Science Programme is Now Available in Malaysia!

Following the rise of technological trends such as the Metaverse, AI, AR, Blockchain, Big Data, Cloud Computing and more, there is no better time than now to level up yourself with an education in the fields of computer science and game design. The One Academy has partnered with DigiPen Institute of Technology, USA, to offer you an outstanding opportunity to gain a comprehensive education of professional standards and international recognition.

DigiPen USA is the first school in the world to offer a bachelor's degree programme in video game development. Through this collaboration, The One Academy has stepped up to the challenge to lead the game development industry in Southeast Asia.

DigiPen The One Academy now offers top-grade Computer Science & Game Design programmes catering towards the golden career opportunities in Malaysia. Led by a team of professional educators from DigiPen's international campuses and mirroring their syllabus from the USA, these programmes train students by utilising game design as a teaching medium to not only make learning fun and interesting, but also facilitate the knowledge of cutting-edge computer science technology. Upon graduating, they can pursue careers in not only computer science and game design, but even develop their own games or business and take on innovative tech trends such as the Metaverse, AI, AR, Blockchain, Big Data, Cloud Computing and more.

Seize this great opportunity and connect with us to find out how you can kick-start your journey to a promising, fun career!

DigiPen The One Academy International Diploma & Degree Programmes:

Diploma in Game Design Diploma in Computer Science **Bachelor of Arts in Game Design Bachelor of Science in** Computer Science & Game Design* **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science** in Real-Time Interactive Simulation *Courses Comina Soon APR 2023 INTAKE now open for registration Meet our professional counsellors DigiPen INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY USA to find out about our courses today. Scan to visit Scan for a Campus Tour THE ÔNE ACADEMY Online registration is available now. website DigiPen The One Academy Block B4, Leisure Commerce Square, No. 9, Jln PJS 8/9, 46150 PJ, Selangor, Malaysia. T 03-7875 5510 E info.digipen@toa.edu.my 🖸 +6012 551 0639 🖬 www.facebook.com/digipen.toa 🞯 www.instagram.com/digipen.toa

23/1043



RUMC final year medical student Lau Wei Khang is well on his way in pursuing his dream of becoming a doctor.



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A fulfilling medical career

IS your child among the 400,000 Malaysians who have just completed the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examinations? Is your child keen on pursuing a degree in medicine and becoming a doctor? Do you want your child to study abroad? If your answer is a resounding "Yes!" to all these questions, then we insist that you read on. We are positive you would find RUMC the ideal stepping stone for your child's path towards a successful and fulfilling medical career.

RUMC (RCSI and UCD Malaysia Campus) is a foreign university branch campus of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and University College Dublin, two of the world's leading medical universities. As an Irish university, students are guaranteed a university placement in Ireland, studying for the first two and a half years of their medical degree at either RCSI or UCD. In Ireland, not only will your child be studying in an institution that is

highly ranked on the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, but also be exposed to a highly conducive learning environment.

What adds on to RUMC's uniqueness is that its students experience the best of both worlds. Your child would return to Malaysia for the clinical component of the RUMC medical degree programme.

The knowledge and experience gained in Ireland would be applied during your child's clinical rotations.

Here, your child along with his or her cohort would have the benefit of being the only medical students with access to the patients at RUMC's teaching hospitals. This makes for quality clinical training and prepares your child for the housemanship years that await after graduation.

RUMC has graduated over 2,100 doctors who are practising medicine both globally and locally. Like those who have walked the RUMC path before, your child will be conferred

a medical degree by the National University of Ireland (NUI). An NUI degree is recognised for international practice including amongst many; Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada.

This would allow your child to have a wider range of options when deciding what do when he or she is a doctor.

The journey begins now – with your child's SPM results, he or she can apply to RUMC's Foundation in Science (FIS) programme. The FIS is a one-year pre-university pathway to the medicine degree. Your child will start in Penang, gaining early exposure to the basics of the health sciences from a faculty of established academics and clinicians along with senior medical students.

Upon concluding the FIS, your child will have the opportunity to progress into RUMC's five-year medical degree programme, starting in Ireland and completing in Malaysia.

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Kok is nurtured at UCSI University to come up with compelling designs that win hearts and minds

At the vanguard of creativity

IT'S ideal to learn from the best. When you do, you can bet that you'll pick up the skills and mindset to perform at a completely different level.

It's great to work with the best too. And sometimes, you might actually get to work with the same people you learnt from.

Kok Hong Li can certainly relate. Enrolling at UCSI University as a Diploma in Graphic Design student in 2016, she was making her first step in the vanguard of creativity.

"I was 18 then and I was initially torn between graphic design and architecture," says Kok.

"I wanted to pursue a credential that could enhance my drawing skills and hone my creative bent.

"Looking back, joining UCSI's Institute of Creative Arts and Design (ICAD) was the right choice. I learn so much from renowned contemporary artists who have impacted the industry and I even get to work with them on projects."

One such artist is Ivan Lam, the first and only Malaysian to have his work commissioned and featured in a Louis Vuitton global store as part of the fashion house's official art collection.

Kok muses that the first thing that sets Lam apart is the distinctive way he conceptualises and envisions things – the ability to see what others can't.

And once Lam commits to an endeavour, he embarks on a pursuit of excellence that involves great attention to detail and a burning desire to achieve the very best. "Learning from – and working alongside –

Lam is a joy," muses Kok. "He's so well respected in the industry but

he's so down to earth and approachable. "I pick up so many new and creative insights from him and I seek to apply them

at every opportunity. I'm glad that UCSI has a wide industry network that I can tap into." Kok has now collaborated with artisan

chocolatier Rafflesia for three years, producing a variety of seasonal packaging designs and illustration projects. Her breakthrough moment – designing

Rafflesia's 15th anniversary box cover designs that were launched in collaboration with celebrated fashion designer and shoemaker Prof Datuk Jimmy Choo. "It's a special memory as Choo auto-

graphed my designs!" she enthuses. "It meant a lot to me and I was honoured that my work was chosen for such an occasion."

Other leading companies that have engaged Kok include Mitsubishi, TIME dotCom, Kyochon, Tune Protect, PrestoMall, Provital Nutrition and myEureka popcorn, among many others.

Kok is also quick to credit Goh Wei Lok, ICAD's head of game design and 3D animation for recalibrating her thought process. "I enjoy discussing challenging ideas and going through the creative process with him," she muses.

"He really helped me improve my skills and design sense. "He also taught me how to articulate

difficult concepts, how to be sensitive to nuances and how to incorporate different design elements effectively.

"Thanks to his guidance, I can readily take criticism and feedback. This really helps me when I deal with demanding clients."

Kok and Goh are currently running a freelance hub called Design People, catering to the design needs of advertising agencies, local businesses and F&B companies.

It is something of a throwaway observation that Kok clearly enjoys her time at UCSI.

And she likes it so much to the point that she never contemplated stopping, progressing to degree and master's level studies in 2018 and 2020, respectively.

She is now set to pursue PhD studies this year

"It's an easy decision to continue as I really enjoy the learning environment at UCSI," she continues. "Everyone readily shares and learns from each other.

"The facilities are good, the scholarships are generous, the industry networking is great and students enjoy many opportunities to showcase their talent.'

Kok walks the talk in this regard, winning a gold medal at the Malaysia Technology Expo 2022: SDG International Innovation Awards.

Part of a team of four, Kok contributed to catalogue design and illustrations for a children's book titled What Do You See? - a multimedia-integrated illustration book that

focuses on climate change education. Her work on an interactive media storybook also won a silver medal at the 10th International Innovation, Invention and Design Competition.

With so much in her favour and a good portfolio to match, Kok is looking forward to realising her dream of becoming a creative director at an advertising agency.

UCSI is Malaysia's top private university in the QS World University Rankings 2023. Ranked 284, UCSI is classified in the world's

top 1%. UCSI is the only university in the world to receive the QS Recognition for Improvement Award at the 2022 QS EduData Summit in New York.

The university presently operates four campuses in Kuala Lumpur, Kuching, Port Dickson and Bangladesh.

For more information, visit *ucsiuniversity*. edu.my or call 03-9101 8882/011-3591 5021.

Skills that are in high demand

> FROM PAGE 5 **Financial benefits**

Data science professionals are often highly valued and well-compensated. In many cases, salaries for data science professionals exceed those of other science or technology professionals. This is partly due to the critical role that data science plays in decision-making and the growing demand for these skills in the job market.

"My vision is to lead the Bachelor of Applied Data Science course by developing relevant coursework and enhancing academic standards which are aligned with the university's strategic priorities, plans, policies, profiles and goals.

"This course is distinctive in its outstanding learning outcomes and unique focus on practical application in multiple disciplines. "Students are ensured an environment

that promotes excellence in educational performance and the requisition of data analytical skills that are in demand by employers worldwide," said course coordinator Dr Md Zobaer Hasan.

The Bachelor of Applied Data Science programme at Monash University Malaysia is an excellent choice for individuals seeking a career in the exciting and rapidly growing field of data science applications.

With high demand for these skills, financial benefits, multidisciplinary skills, and hands-on experience, this degree programme offers a promising future for those who are interested in working with data.

New students will be offered a 10% tuition fee waiver for the July and October 2023 intakes. If you're interested in making a difference with data, a Bachelor of Applied Data Science may be the right choice for you.

■ For more information, visit *https://www*. monash.edu.my/study/undergraduate/science/ bachelor-of-applied-data-science or https:// www.monash.edu.my/bads2



PRE-UNIVERSITY STUDIES Foundation in Science

APR | JUL | SEP

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Counselling

- KPT/JPT(N/762/7/0046)09/2026 | MQA/FA12002
- Digital Health
 MQA/PSA14380 JUL | SEP
- Medicine
 vpt/ipt(r2/721/6/0033)09/2026 | MQA/FA6155

Psychology KPT/JPT(R3/311/6/0013)09/2027 | MQA/A8177 FEB | SEP

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

• Dentistry KPT/JPT(R3/724/6/0010)01/2030 | MQA/FA7026 FEB

- Endodontics (*PG Dip*) KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0043)05/2024 | MQA/SWA12162 MAY Implant Dentistry (PG Dip) KPT/JPT(R/724/7/0019)06/2026 | MQA/SWA6111 OCT
- Prosthodontics

(*PG Dip*) KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0042)05/2024 | MQA/SWA12163 JUN

- SCHOOL OF PHARMACY Pharmaceutical Chemistry
 - KPT/JPT(R3/442/6/0003)0 FEB | MAY | JUL | SEP
 - Pharmacy
 MQA/FA8374

*** SETARA≝

HEALTH SCIENCES Biomedical Science Biomedical Science MQA/A8230

- JUL | SEP • Diabetes Management and Education[#] (PG Dip) KPT/JPT(R/726/7/0030)01/2028 | MQA/SWA9086 KPT/JPT(N-DJ/0915/7/0004)11/2027 | MQA/PSA16046 MAR | JUL
- Dietetics with Nutrition JUL | SEP
- Medical Biotechnology JUL | SEP
- Nursing KPT/IPT(R/723/6/0125)04/2027 | MQA/FA8944
- Nursing^{#*} KPT/JPT(N-DL/0913/6/0001)09/2029 | MQA/PA14397 FEB | SEP *Available to registered nurses only
- Nutrition
 Pat/IPT(R2/726/6/0011)06/2027 | MQA/FA1298 JUL | SEP
- CENTRE FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND **ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE** Acupuncture
 - (*MSc*) KPT/JPT(R/721/7/0071)03/2027 | MQA/SWA8570 SEP Chinese Medicine
 MQA/A10260
- SEP Chiropractic
 Construction
 C

KRIPPSISTI95JUSIZ, KRUPSINGTJUSIW03 126, Jalan Jalil Perkasa 19, Bukit Jalil 57000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- MAR | SEP
- Sciences (MSc / PhD) KPT/JPT(R2/720/7/0049)06/2026 | A10618 KPT/JPT(R2/721/8/0043)01/2027 | A3767 Throughout the year # OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING (ODL)

Analytical and

 Charmaceutical Chemistry#

 (MSc)
 (MSc)

 KPT/IPT(R2-CDL/A42/7/0001)01/2027 I MQA/FA1191

 KPT/IPT(N-DL/442/7/0022)02/2026 I MQA/FA11367

 MAR I SEP

Силинсьзэ жилиппіstration in Healthcare Management (PG Cert / PG Dip / Master) ктрлт(Каз457/1082)09/2028 I мQA/9XA11354 ктрлт(Каз457/1090)12/2028 I мQA/9XA11355 ктрлт(Каз457/1090)12/2028 I мQA/9XA11353 мак I Sep

 Education
 (PG Cert# / PG Dip / Master)

 KPUTPT(N-U-1457/0120)022051
 NQA/SWA14379

 KPTUPT(N-1457/0050)03/20251
 MQA/SWA05162

 KPTUPT(N1457/0060)03/20251
 MQA/PA5163

 KPTUPT(N1457/0000)03/20251
 MQA/SWA5163

 KPTUPT(N1457/0000)03/20251
 MQA/SWA5163

 KPTUPT(N1457/0000)03/20251
 MQA/SWA5163

Analytics (PG Cert / PG Dip / Master) ктг/лгт(w/20/1013)09/2025 i MQA/SWA13973 ктг/лгт(w/20/1013)09/2025 i MQA/SA13972 ктг/лгт(w/20/10129)09/2025 i MQA/SMA13974 SEP

:7JPT(R2/545/7/0078)07/2027 | MQA/FA1299 ;JPT(N-DL/545/7/0101)09/2025 | MQA/SWA11357

KPT/JPT(R/727/7/0051)03/2024 | MQA/SWA02796 MAR | SEP

(*MSc*) KPT/JPT(R2/720/7/0077)09/2025 | A10261 KPT/JPT(R-DL/720/7/0811)09/2028 | MQA/SWA11356 **MAR | SEP**

Business Administration

Health Professions

• Health Informatics and

Molecular Medicine[#]

• Pharmacy Practice

Medical and Health

Public Health[#]

KPT/JPT(N-D) MAR | SEP

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- Start@imu.edu.m

THE Kancil Awards is hailed as the "Oscars" of the Malaysian advertising industry, and is the largest and most prestigious advertising awards competition celebrating creative works from all over the nation in an effort to recognise home-grown creative excellence.

There are two divisions to the competition, namely the PETRONAS Kancil Awards, which sees entries from renowned corporations and organisations, and Student Kancil x sCooler Awards, an opportunity for driven students to send in their work to be assessed by industry experts and win acclaimed awards.

The Student Kancil x sCooler Awards is open to all students, Malaysian or otherwise, studying in local schools, colleges and universities. Participants may submit class assignments, personal projects or work specially made for the competition.

Entries are judged by luminaries in the Malaysian advertising scene – group heads, creative directors and executive creative directors, based on masterful creative skill, talent and artistry that goes into bringing an idea to life.

Recognising creative excellence

In 2022, The One Academy emerged as the top winner, sweeping the main titles and a multitude of awards. Together with its counterpart The One Academy Penang, their student submissions have won a total of 96 awards – 12 Golds, 18 Silvers, 29 Bronzes and 37 Merits during the awards festival held on Dec 2 at Sentul Depot, Kuala Lumpur.

On top of that, the college also received the title of 'Creative School of the Year (Private)', while 'Lecturer of the Year' went to Din Tan and 'Student' of the Year' to Elaine Phoo Jing Hui.

The Gold Awards were bestowed in the categories of: Best Idea for Social Good, Best Film and Audio Craft – Visual Effects and Motion Graphics, Best Use of Cultural Insights, Best Print and Poster – Print and Poster: Campaign, Best Film and Audio Craft – Animation, Digital Craft – Interaction Design, Digital Craft – Visual Design for



Elaine Phoo's winning works 'Social Trend x Old Stuff', 'Punctuation's World' and 'Dialects Club'.

Digital Platforms, Best Design – Brand Identity, Best Design – Product, and Integrated Campaigns. Digital Media Design student

Elaine Phoo was awarded the

'Student of the Year' award for her outstanding works. She had won Gold for her visual design for digital platforms, titled 'Social Trend x Old Stuff', a series of motion graphic works fusing objects from the 80s with popular modern media platforms to imagine what if social media existed in the 80s.

She also won two Bronzes in the Best Film and Audio Craft – Visual Effects and Motion Graphics category. 'Punctuation's World' takes punctuation mark symbols and turns them into visual shapes, bringing out their characteristics and extraordinary charm to lead the public into the world of reading. Meanwhile, 'Dialects Club' is a promotional video for a programme that reconnects the fading Malaysian Nanyang Chinese dialects with the younger generation through an exciting dialogue session.

This remarkable win in the Kancil Awards stands as a testa-

ment by The One Academy to its dedication in producing fine young talents all over Malaysia while staying true to its core belief and living up to its motto of "Masters Train Masters".

The One Academy is committed to providing the best art education programmes and continues to nurture its students passionately through its "Masters Train Masters" coaching philosophy, which has been practised for over 30 years, by providing diploma and degree courses in Advertising and Graphic Design, Digital Animation, Digital Media Design, Film Visual Effects, Interior Architecture and Design, Illustration, Fine Arts, Paris Fashion Design and Pattern Making, Computer Science and Game Design.

■ For more information on The One Academy, visit *www.toa.edu. my* or call 03-7875 5510 or e-mail enquiries to info@toa.edu.my.



Developing future-proof grads



IN today's Malaysia, many organisations are on the lookout for employees who are equipped with various soft skills.

This is because the working world and industries have changed and wish to adapt to the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

Thus, to meet the demands of the 4IR, it has become imperative for fresh university graduates to develop such skills to find employment.

To develop future-proof graduates who are able to meet the needs of various industries, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) has strived to help students acquire the necessary skill sets that are required by the industries in the 21st century, such as multi-tasking, leadership, problem solving, teamwork and critical thinking skills.

Speaking on this, UTAR vice-president for Internationalisation and Academic Development Ir Prof Dr Goi Bok Min said: "At UTAR, our programmes are industry relevant and driven, as we constantly work with many industry collaborators and industry advisory panels to create future-proof graduates who are sought after by the industries nowadays.

Students also have the opportunity to work on real industry projects, both local and overseas, allowing them to gain experience that can be brought forward to the working world after they graduate. Hence, this is why our graduates' employability rates are high, and they are performing well in their respective industries; the university has put in much effort in creating graduates that are needed by industries in the 21st contury."

Students learning about virology

at the UTAR Immunology and Virology

Laboratory.

tries in the 21st century." In another one of UTAR's efforts to create future-proof graduates, the University has established the Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC) to allow students to develop a variety of soft skills.

Through DSSC, students are able to equip themselves with various soft skills that can enhance their competitive edge in the job market and that are needed by most companies.

These skills include communication and language skills, critical thinking, leadership skills, moral and professional ethics, complex problem-solving skills, and many others.

DSSC organises a multitude of short programmes such as workshops, training programmes and community projects to train students into obtaining soft skills that will be beneficial once they graduate.

These programmes are conducted by professional trainers, with DSSC also working with the public and private sectors to give the best possible learning experience to the students in developing relevant industry skills.

Grooming medical experts

LONG renowned as a leader in medicine, the UK boasts a well-established medical system, with medical regulations stretching as far back as over six centuries ago.

From its top-notch National Health Service (NHS) to various innovations throughout history, the British have always been an exemplary model in the fields of medical research and practice.

The growth of modern medicine in the 19th century necessitated the establishment of medical schools throughout the UK, particularly in industrial cities such as Newcastle.

In 1831, surgeon and epidemiologist Thomas Greenhow proposed the establishment of a medical institution to serve the growing medical needs of Newcastle and in the following year, a group of local physicians, including John Snow, one of the pioneers in modern epidemiology, introduced medical lectures in the city.

The School of Medicine and Surgery – the precursor of Newcastle University – was then formally founded in 1834.

then formally founded in 1834. Today, Newcastle University is ranked within the top 150 universities worldwide by Quacquarelli Symonds and counts medical research as its forte. The varsity has one of the largest European Union research portfolios within the UK and is also part of the prestigious Russell Group, an elite association of 24 research-oriented universities throughout the UK.

In 2011, Newcastle University, UK, opened its branch campus in Johor, Malaysia, giving an opportunity for Malaysian students to leverage the famed British medical education system on home soil.

At Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed), the syllabi and examinations are identical to those in the UK, and equal emphasis is placed on theoretical know-how, clinical research, and practical skills, guaranteeing high standards and



At NUMed, the syllabi and examinations are identical to those in the UK, and equal emphasis is placed on theoretical know-how, clinical research, and practical skills, guaranteeing high standards and market employability for its graduates.

of NUMed

market employability for its graduates. At present, NUMed offers degrees in medicine (MBBS) and biomedical sciences (BSc Honours in Biomedical Sciences), as well as a Foundation in Biological and Biomedical Sciences course.

MBBS students are exposed to real-world case studies from the get-go and, from Year 3 onwards, will be required to undertake clinical placements at government hospitals and clinics in Johor to put their newly acquired skills to practice. In addition, NUMed's MBBS degree is professionally accredited, not just by the Malaysian and British medical boards, but also by the relevant governing bodies of Thailand, Maldives, Pakistan, and Mauritius. Meanwhile, the biomedical science degree entails a '2+1' structure, in which the first two academic years are delivered at the NUMed campus while the final academic year is taught in the UK. NUMed students will be provided a broad introduction to biomolecular sciences for the first 1.5 years before shifting gears towards clinical research and vocational experience.

NUMed's BSc Honours degree in Biomedical Sciences is also professionally accredited by the Royal Society of Biology (RSB), opening doors for graduates to the various industries in the UK such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and biotechnology.

■ For more details on how to kick-start your medical journey with NUMed, email admissions@newcastle.edu.my, call 07-555 3800, WhatsApp 011-1231 5411/ 012-7849 456, or visit the NUMed website at *www.ncl.ac.uk/numed*

Strong emphasis on acquiring soft skills

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To encourage students to join these programmes, UTAR has also introduced the UTAR Soft Skills Development Certificate (USSDC), a certification system to recognise students' achievements and efforts in improving themselves in the areas of communication, thinking, team-building, leadership, entrepreneurship, innovation and life skills.

Students who join the USSDC certification system and attend the training programmes can earn USSDC points. Students who have accumulated a minimum of 100 points are eligible to be awarded a USSDC certificate which can be used to increase their chances of employability after graduation.

UTAR offers undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in areas including Accountancy, Actuarial Science, Applied Mathematics, Arts, Chinese Studies, Malaysia Studies, Business and Economics, Biotechnology, Engineering and Built Environment, Information and Communication Technology, Life and Physical Sciences, Medicine and Health Sciences, Media and Journalism, Education and General Studies, and Agriculture and Food Science. The university also engages in the provision and conduct of research, consultation, management and leadership training, and other related educational services at its Sungai Long and Kampar campuses in Malaysia.

■ For as low as RM309, you can enrol in UTAR foundation or undergraduate studies and also enjoy 100% application fee waiver. Check out UTAR Open Day information at *https://study.utar.edu.my/openday.php* for more information. Or call or WhatsApp 016-223 3557.





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