# StarSpecial Higher Education

THE STAR, THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

# Ready for the future of finance

THE world of finance is vast and provides many career pathways and opportunities. At the same time, the financial industry is dynamic and rapidly changing in this new era of digitisation and fintech (finance and technology).

Examples of recent innovations include blockchain, cryptocurrencies, e-payments, digital taxation and big data, to name but a few.

It therefore comes as no surprise that companies ranging from financial institutions to technology firms are in need of professionals with the knowledge and skills to help them navigate the evolving industry landscape.

Needless to say, the shortage of financial talent is global and therefore offers excellent career prospects for professionals with the right skills.

#### **Henley Business School** and ICMA Centre

Established in 1945, Henley Business School at the University of Reading has a long and wellestablished reputation as one of

the UK's premier business schools.
Ranked in the Top 10 of UK Business Schools according to the Financial Times European Business School Rankings 2020, Henley is also among the 100 or so elite business schools in the world with triple-crown accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the Association of MBAs (AMBA) and the European Foundation for Management Development Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) in recognition of the quality of its teaching and research.

Furthermore, Henley's ICMA Centre, named after the International Capital Markets Association, is consistently ranked amongst the top institutions for finance both nationally and globally, and is recognised as a pioneer in academia-industry collaboration.

#### **Finance and Business** Management (FaBM)

Students have the opportunity to study with Henley at the University of Reading's state-ofthe-art branch campus in Malaysia, which is located in EduCity Iskandar, Johor.

Students at the Malaysian campus enjoy the best of both worlds the same highly respected University of Reading degree, following the same curriculum and academic quality standards, but at a significantly more affordable cost.

The course fees at the Malaysia campus are around one-third of those of the UK campus, excluding accommodation and living expenses.

As with the UK campus, there is considerable depth of faculty expertise, with 75% of academic staff holding PhD or doctoral degrees and many possessing relevant industry experience.

The BSc Finance and Business Management, hereafter referred to as FaBM (R/340/6/0485)(11/2024) (MQA/FA5216), is one of four degree programmes that are currently offered at Henley



The University of Reading's international branch campus in Malaysia is located in EduCity Iskandar, Johor.



Henley's state-of-the-art Financial Dealing Room.

Business School Malaysia, with all of the modules developed in conjunction with subject matter experts at Henley's ICMA Centre.

The FaBM programme is the ideal starting point for students seeking a career in finance, with recent graduates joining companies such as Public Bank, OCBC, Petronas, CIMB and Frost and Sullivan.

#### **Cutting-edge curriculum**

Students on FaBM benefit from Henley's rigorous and cutting-edge curriculum which includes topics at the forefront of modern finance:

- > Fintech and cryptocurrencies
- Financial modelling
- > Corporate finance > Ethics in investment
- management
- > Securities and markets
- > Management accounting > Competitive strategy
- > Portfolio management
- > Islamic banking

Leveraging Malaysia's leading position in the Islamic finance space, students also take an Islamic finance module in their final year which widens their appreciation of both conventional and Islamic financial services industries.

Furthermore, the FaBM programme is validated and listed as a University Affiliation Programme of the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute, USA, meaning that the curriculum is closely aligned with investment management practice and relevant to students who wish to prepare for the CFA Programme exams.

#### Financial dealing room experience

The dealing facilities at Henley are one of the most extensive found in any business school, and students in Malaysia have access to a Financial Dealing room that enables them to apply investment theories, concepts and principles they learn in class to real-world scenarios.

The Dealing Room is equipped with propriety ICTrader software, one of the most sophisticated trading systems and is simulated to trade equity, foreign currency and derivatives in the US and UK markets.

Students feel like they are at the trading desk and get to experience the challenges faced by traders such as working under pressure and the sudden and sharp movement in share prices.

Students also have access to the world-renowned Refinitiv financial database (formerly known as Thompson-Reuters Eikon).



Henley Business School at the university's main Whiteknights campus in

#### Study UK experience option

Students can take advantage of the flexible options which allow them to spend one or two years at Henley in the UK. This may appeal to parents who wish to send their children to study in the UK but are concerned about travel restrictions and safety amid the current pandemic.

The Henley building is situated on the university's main Whiteknights campus in Reading UK, which is set on 130 hectares of beautiful parkland and has won the Green Flag award 10 times in a row, making it one of the UK's best green spaces.

The campus has everything a student could need, including sports facilities, health centre, eateries, a supermarket and on-campus accommodation.

Reading town is conveniently only a 25-minute train ride from London, making it ideal for students seeking to make the most of their time in the UK.

#### University entry points

The entry points for new students are in April, July and September each year. Students with recognised foundation, STPM, A-level, UEC or equivalent qualifications can apply for direct entry to any of the programmes at Henley Business School Malaysia.

SPM, IGCSE and equivalent holders should first enrol in the 12-month International Foundation Programme. Upon successful completion, they can opt to start their studies with Henley either in Malaysia or the UK.

High Achievers Scholarships valued up to RM33,840 are available for those with excellent academic grades who chose to study at the Malaysia campus (subject to terms and conditions).

■ For more information, visit www.reading.edu.my/henley or follow them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ universityofreadingmalaysia or Instagram at https://www.instagram. com/uniofreadingmalaysia/

To arrange one-to-one virtual consultation or a campus visit, call or WhatsApp Devi (016-225 4012) or Kristinah (016-206 4012) or email my.enquiry@reading.edu. my or visit University of Reading Malaysia, Persiaran Graduan, Kota Ilmu, EduCity, 79200 Iskandar Puteri, Johor, Malaysia.

**Higher Education** THE STAR, THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

### An exceptional achievement

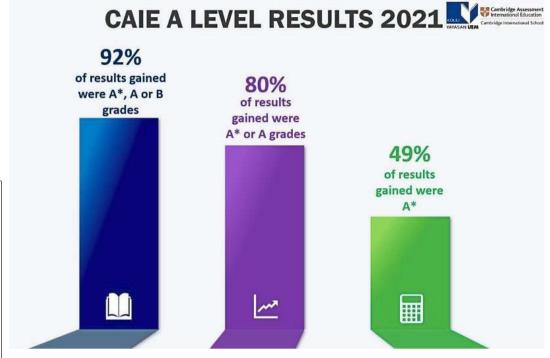
KOLEJ Yayasan UEM (KYUEM) is pleased to announce another set of exceptional Cambridge A/AS level exam results.

Despite the challenges its students have faced over the last 18 months, they have again excelled in the examination hall, where 464 students sat for AS level and/or full A-Level examinations in the May/June 2021 exam series.

These were the first crosscurriculum exams for two years, as last year's international exams were replaced by a predicted grade system.

As is true for all other fields, education has suffered restrictions and setbacks since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic but there are some constants in our rapidly changing world, two of which are the excellence to which KYUEM aspires and the grades its students achieve.

This year's headline statistics at full A-Levels include:



**KYUEM** announces another set of exceptional Cambridge A/AS level exam results.

Cyber

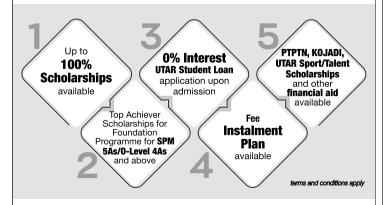
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⊚ enquiry@utar.edu.my ⊕ study.utar.edu.my

- 92% of results gained were A\*, A or B grades.

- 80% of results gained were A\* or A grades.

- 49% of results gained were A\* grades.

– 66% of students gained at least three A grades or better.

- 58% of students gained straight A\*/A grades.

– 32% of students gained at least three A\* grades or better.

– 29% of students gained at least four A grades or better.

Six of these seven data equal or surpass the finest examination data KYÛEM has ever published in the months following the May/June 2019 CAIE exam series.

Through their examination achievements, KYUEM students continue to be presented with Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards, recognising their results nationally as the best in Malaysia and often internationally as the best in the world.

KYUEM's A-Level achievements are matched only by the exceptional work undertaken in its University Relations Department - 83% of graduating senior students have met the requirements of their conditional offers from some of the finest universities in the UK and US.

Seven will enrol at Oxford or Cambridge this year and another 10% are expected to gain places in prestigious international universities in the coming weeks.

The current batch of senior students have just received their AS level results and embarked on the second year of their A-Level studies with 82% of all their AS results at A grade. They have the foundation to achieve comparable full A-Level results next year.

KYUEM is extremely proud of

the efforts of its students, whose achievements are based on lengthy periods of online learning.

Its teaching staff have adapted proactively to the demands of distance learning and undertaken extensive training to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills to their students.

The teaching staff is a mixture of local and international teachers. more than half of whom have masters degrees or PhDs.

They employ a variety of learning techniques through a range of software media to ensure that the highest of standards are maintained.

■ To learn more about KYUEM, visit www.kyuem.edu.my or register for the Virtual Open Day (On Demand) link where you can have full access to information about KYUEM, anytime, anywhere at your convenience: www.kyuem.edu.my/virtualopenday

### Marking a new global milestone

UNIVERSITI Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) marked another milestone when it made it to the list of Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings (WUR) for the second consecutive year.

UniKL is ranked in the 1,200+ position among 1,662 ranked universities worldwide alongside 17 other Malaysian universities, including five private universities: Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Multimedia University and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman.

Being ranked in both THE and OS World Rankings is also tantamount to UniKL, Malaysia's largest private technical entrepreneurial university under the purview of Majlis Amanah Rakyat, an agency under the Ministry of Rural Development, is among the top universities in the country.

This is a commendable feat considering that UniKL was originally established as several technical and vocational colleges before being amalgamated and upgraded as a university in 2002.

Being the youngest Malaysian university in the ranking, UniKL has proven its dedication to academic and research excellence while maintaining its Higher TVET and hands-on learning philosophy.

UniKL's presence in the world ranking is the result of the WE4ASIA



Datuk Dr Roziah Omar says UniKL is working towards raising its international outlook and presence through collaborations with internationally renowned universities and organisations.

transformation plan that was launched in 2014, along with the dedication of all its staff and community as well as support from the stakeholders.

This has allowed UniKL to excel in the 13 performance indicators that measure an institution's performance across four areas -

teaching, research, knowledge transfers and international outlook.

According to president and chief executive officer of UniKL Datuk Dr Roziah Omar, UniKL is currently working towards raising its international outlook and presence through collaborations with internationally renowned universities and organisations both locally and abroad, besides an effort to boost its international student's numbers.

Under its strategic renewal plan, UniKL is targeting to be ranked in the Top 600 position in the world ranking by 2025.

Times Higher Education World Rankings also revealed that universities in Asia are slowly growing to overtake Western institutions as their global positions continue to

According to David Watkins, Head of Data Science at THE, universities that have published medical sciences research relating to Covid-19 have seen a significant boost in their citation impact, according to the latest rankings.

UniKL through its Royal College of Medicine Perak (UniKL RCMP) and Institute of Medical Science Technology (UniKL MESTECH) will spearhead the research in those areas.

■ For more information, visit www.unikl.edu.my



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for International Outlook (THE 2022)

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**BSc Business and Management** (R/345/6/0827)(07/2025)(MQA/FA7579)

BSc Real Estate (R/341/6/0042)(07/2025)(MQA/FA7578)

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) (N/380/6/0058)(06/2024)(MQA/PA12029)

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

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Higher Education The star, Thursday 23 September 2021

### Facing challenges head-on

THE whole world was forced to adapt to unforeseen circumstances brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. This has changed the landscape of many sectors such as industries, economies and of course, education.

While many are still finding their feet, some have used the situation as an opportunity to solidify their foundation in preparation for the future challenges of the new normal.

Teh Wen Jie joined Tunku Abdul Rahman University College's (TAR UC) Foundation in Accounting programme last year and is currently a Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) student. The comprehensive lessons she picked up from her Foundation days prepared her to take on today's new challenges and turn them into opportunities to excel.

and turn them into opportunities to excel.

"When the pandemic hit, I clearly remembered one piece of advice from one of my lecturers: 'Challenges can be opportunities, it all depends on how you view them.'

"Thanks to my Foundation studies, I had already adapted to online learning, so the transition to full online learning was seamless. I was also taught to be independent and pre-prepare for lecture sessions so that I would never miss out on important lessons.

"This saves me hours of time, which I can channel towards other meaningful activities such as revision or exercise," said Teh, 19. She also credited TAR UC's comprehensive

She also credited TAR UC's comprehensive student lifestyle for helping to improve her social skills via club activities.

"As a member of the Economics Society, I have learned the importance of social skills such as team planning, negotiation and communication. These experiences also spurred me to volunteer for the TEDxTARUC 2019 event as a committee member.

"I have always been fascinated with numbers. When I heard how strong TAR UC's Foundation programme was and its history of producing successful graduates annually, I



TAR UC's Foundation programmes are curated to prepare students effectively for transition to their respective bachelor's degree programmes and future challenges.

figured this would be the place to help me develop my passion into a career. Now, I can truly say that TAR UC is the right choice for me," she added.

Currently, TAR UC offers six Foundation programmes in Arts, Science, Engineering, Accounting, Business and Computing, which are curated to prepare students effectively for transition to their respective bachelor's degree programmes and future careers.

■ For details on TAR UC's Foundation programmes or the September intake, contact the Centre for Pre-University Studies at 011-1075 8537 or email cpus@tarc.edu.my. Alternatively, visit www.tarc.edu.my/cpus

TAR UC's Virtual Open Day is taking place from now until Sept 24, 10am to 5pm daily. Visitors can register at http://virtualopenday. tarc.edu.my

The September intake is currently in progress. Prospective students are encouraged to apply at www.tarc.edu.my
Attractive scholarships are also available

Attractive scholarships are also available at TAR UC based on academic merit, as well as sibling discounts for qualified students.



Teh credits the solid preparation from her Foundation days for her seamless transition to full online learning at TAR UC.

# Effective way to cram for exams

DO you have finals next week? Here are some tips that will help you learn quickly.

#### Survey

Skim through the textbook and highlight important ideas. This should consist of headings, subheadings and certain images. If you're studying Ancient Egyptian History, you might highlight: the Nile, the Pyramids, the Cleopatras and the Pantheon of Gods.

#### Turn highlighted parts into questions

Imagine what the essentials are. For the Nile, questions may include: how long is it, where does it flow and what's special about it.

#### Find the answers

In this case, look at information that says the Nile is 6,853km long, moves through 11 countries and overflows its banks once a year, depositing rich soil that helped Egypt become an agricultural power in the Ancient World.

#### Convert highlighted text into notes

Make cards in bullet notes and mnemonics to remember all the points. Have an image of the Nile with 6853. On another card, list the 11 countries: Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Congo-Kinshasa, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan and Egypt. Reduce it to first letters (TURB CK KEE SSSE).

#### Go through your cards

Sing, memorise, give speeches to an imaginary class. As you repeat this over and over, the facts will sink into your brain.



### Online dental studies

THE Covid-19 pandemic's impact on education has been far-reaching. Dentistry is an academic path that requires a mixture of theoretical studies and practical training. How do we do this when face-toface (F2F) teaching and learning have been limited by the current restrictions and safety concerns?

At the Penang International Dental College (PIDC), the journey to using online platforms for teaching and learning began in 2010 via the implementation of its e-learning portal.

This portal is a social learning platform where all student activities, inclusive of lecture notes and schedules, are posted. Unlike the regular Learning Management Systems, it is an interactive platform where students and academicians can interact with each other.

Teaching and learning during the pandemic was done asynchronously using open source platforms integrated into the e-portal.

This was supported by the lecturer-student support system which gave students much-needed flexibility and provided a less stressful learning environment.

In 2020, PIDC decided to host its lectures on a dedicated YouTube channel for the benefit of its students as well as dental students affected elsewhere in the world.

This medium became quite popular, attracting over 5.9 million unique visitors as of August 2021.

PIDC received direct messages from students and academicians from across the globe on this initiative as it had indirectly



PIDC has utilised e-learning platforms to ensure that the same quality education as F2F is maintained.

assisted many on their dentistry journey during the pandemic.

PIDC's early start in the adoption of information technology infrastructure allowed both its academicians and students to seamlessly adapt to online learning.

PIDC utilised its e-learning platform, YouTube channel, Google Classroom and other IT infrastructure to enhance its online teaching and ensure that the same quality education as F2F is maintained.

To support continuous professional development, a unique student initiative called PIDC Virtual Circle was established as a platform to conduct free webinars or talk shows on hot topics such as Covid-19 vaccines, setting up a dental practice and opportunities for employment for dental graduates.

PIDC has always believed in regular investment to enhance its IT capacity. This was further

boosted during the pandemic. For high-stakes examinations, proctored online examinations were set up with further investment in a required IT software to ensure and maintain the examination standards with an eye on plagiarism.

PIDC's early adoption of IT infrastructure for teaching and learning together with its enhancement of its IT software and infrastructure has ensured that its students' teaching and learning activities can maintain high-quality standards.

■ For details on PIDC's dental degree programme, call 1300 882 929 or call and WhatsApp 012-203 8638 or 012-938 PIDC (7432) or email admission@pidc.edu.my.

For more information on PIDC Virtual Circle, visit https://www. pidc.edu.my/mainpage/pidc-virtual-circle/. To view its webinar series visit https://www.pidc.edu.my/ mainpage/webinar-series/



The Bachelor in Pharmacy programme is fully accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency and recognised by the Malaysian Pharmacy Board.

### Nurturing top pharmacists

THE role of pharmacists has evolved over the years to play an integral part in providing the best healthcare services to the community.

AIMST's Bachelor in Pharmacy programme, which started in 2005, is fully accredited by the Malaysian Oualifications Agency (MQA/ FA8482) and recognised by the Malaysian Pharmacy Board.

The outcome-based curriculum of this four-year programme produces graduates with critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, leadership qualities, entrepreneurship and social skills emphasising compassion to provide the best health care services.

Students are exposed to problem-based learning, objective structured clinical examinations and journal appraisal.

Educational visits expose students to the pharmacy practice and help relate theoretical components from classes with real-world procedures.

For exposure, students are placed in suitable industries either locally or overseas for a minimum of six weeks at the end of their third year.

India is a well-known drug manufacturer using state-of-art technology in the international arena. AIMST's collaboration with JSS University provides students industrial placements in Ooty and Mysore, India.

Students also benefit through the partnership in manufacturing and production of vaccines at the Pasteur Institute in Coonoor, India.

> TURN TO PAGE 6



Management & Science University (MSU) DU019(B)

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### Laying the foundation for success

#### > FROM PAGE 5

Apart from that, placements are carried out at various hospital departments (six weeks) and community pharmacies (two weeks) for exposure to pharmacy practice.

The passing rate of AIMST students in the recent National Qualifying Examination was above 85%, reflecting the syllabus' adequacy. The Faculty of Pharmacy is located together than Faculty of Modicine Faculty of Pharmacy is provided together than 100 persons and 100 persons are provided to the Faculty of Modicine Faculty of Mod

er with the Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dentistry and Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, which provides inter-faculty collaborations and good inter-faculty rapport.

Upon completing the Bachelor of Pharmacy programme, students may enrol in the Provisionally Registered Pharmacist (PRP) training. Those who undergo the PRP training at AIMST University will enrol in postgraduate programmes simultaneously. At the end of the training, students will acquire both a

master's degree and practising licence.
The Faculty of Pharmacy also offers postgraduate programmes including the Master of Pharmacy (Clinical Pharmacy), Master of Science in Pharmacy (research mode) and Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacy.

Upon completing the Bachelor of Pharmacy programme, students can enrol in any postgraduate programme offered by the faculty.

The October intake of AIMST's Bachelor of Pharmacy programme is now in progress.

■ For more details, go to www.aimst.edu.my or visit AIMST University's campus in Semeling, Kedah, or call 012-549 8108.

# Rising healthcare demand

EVEN without the Covid-19 pandemic, the increase of population ages and life expectancy would have eventually culminated in the same realisation on the flaws of current healthcare management.

Inserting the pandemic into the equation highlights the need for more healthcare providers and facilities as medical technology and services advance. Consequently, the need for talents to manage the healthcare facilities will also increase.

In view of this, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) will offer its new Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) Healthcare Management programme under the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF), beginning in the October trimester

"This programme is very much relevant to our current situation. It emphasises building a solid understanding and foundation of public, private and government healthcare management systems.

"Today, there is an increase in public awareness. Job demand in the healthcare industry is also gradually increasing," said FBF dean Assoc Prof Dr Au Yong Hui Nee.

"Another issue that calls for the improvement of our healthcare system is the ageing population. Malaysia will have a high-ageing population in the coming decade and the healthcare industry enables improvement in citizens' quality of life.

"Before Covid-19, Malaysia was one of the go-to countries for medical tourism, recording over 1.5 million visitors from around the world seeking medical consultancy and treatment every year.

"Even after recovering from the pandemic,



The exterior view of the Faculty of Business and Finance at UTAR's Kampar campus.

I still believe in Malaysia's potential to retain its status as one of the competitive countries offering medical tourism. I hope this programme can produce more quality and competitive healthcare talents for the industry so that more improvements can be achieved."

Upon completing the programme, students will acquire a comprehensive range of analytical, problem-solving, professional skills and knowledge, which are increasingly valued not just among health service providers but also in other areas of health support organisations, managed care organisations, consulting firms, public health departments in organisations and learning organisations.

On the programme's uniqueness, Research and Development and Postgraduate Programmes deputy dean Dr Choong Yuen Onn said, "Several special courses such as disease prevention, health, safety and risk management, emergency control and response management are also offered in this programme, which are difficult to find elsewhere.

"Being registered under the business management category, our programme is able to attract a wider range of groups, including

@pidcofficial

arts stream students, such as Foundation in Arts, STPM and even UEC. Students will not only explore healthcare-related knowledge, but also the latest technology or digital courses, as well as business and management."

Department of Business head Dr Tee Chee Wee added, "This is a good time to enrol in the programme. After completing the threeyear duration, demand in the healthcare

industry will be very high.

"Career prospects in healthcare management are also promising, and individuals taking on the role of healthcare administrators or managers will be contributing and learning in various settings.'

UTAR offers courses in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in various areas and engages in the provision and conduct of research, consultation, management and leadership training and other related educational services at its campuses in Bandar Sungai Long and Kampar, Malaysia.

■ For more details, go to www.utar.edu.my or call 05-468 8888 (Kampar campus) or 03-9086 0288 (Sungai Long campus).



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Nur Qasrina and her teammates in action during the Endurance Festival Bavaria in Buch, Germany. Her team clinched second place.



Nur Qasrina (second from left on the podium) and her teammates celebrating their silver medal finish at the FEI World Endurance Championship for Young and Junior Riders in Ermelo, the Netherlands.

# **Enduring spirit and ambition**

HER interest in endurance riding was sparked eight years ago when she admired the agility displayed by players on horseback at the Royal Selangor Polo Club in Ampang.

In 2016, Nur Qasrina Amani Zakaria took part in her first competition: the first qualifying round in the 40km category of the SEA Games held at the Paya Indah Wetlands in Putrajaya.

She rode an Arab mixed breed named Commander and together, they made the Endurance Malaysia team for the 2017 Kuala Lumpur SEA Games.

Nur Qasrina, who is the fourth of five siblings, recalls her early involvement in the sport: "I'm indebted to my parents, Zakaria Abd Rahman and Suzanna Musakal, for their faith and support in me and my younger

brother Muhammad Yusuf Lukman Zakaria, who is also a captain for the national equestrian team."

Among her other highlights is taking part in the FEI World **Endurance Championship for** Young and Junior Riders 2019 in Pisa, San Rossore, Italy, as well as the 2021 edition held in Ermelo, the Netherlands.

"Most recently in Ermelo, the national equestrian team comprised myself, Muhammad Yusuf Luqman, Muhammad Faris Haikal Hassan Sa'ari, Anfal Insyirah Abu Talib and An Nur Muhammad Imran Eirfan Anuwar.

"We won the silver medal. The French team secured gold while Belgium claimed the bronze medal. It was the first time Malaysia had made it to the podium and the country's fifth time participating.

"With this achievement, I am determined to take my riding to a higher level through other competitions all over the world and with it, the country's name," said Nur Qasrrina, 20.

Currently, she ranks 714th in the world in the International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FEI) Endurance Open Riders World Ranking. Her highest ranking to date has been 181st place.

She counts being in the same squad once with the Sultan of Terengganu, who won a gold medal in the 2017 Kuala Lumpur SEA Games, as one of the highlights of her sporting career.

"Endurance riding tests the athlete's ability to safely manage the stamina and fitness of the horse in a competition against the track, distance, climate, terrain and clock.

"To be successful, the rider must have knowledge of pace, as well as safe and efficient use of the horse. Being able to skilfully balance training and technique helps an athlete focus on winning," added Nur Qasrina.

As a Bachelor in Marketing with Psychology (Hons) student at the Management and Science University's (MSU) Faculty of Business Management and Professional Student (FBMP), she has her sights set on a future career in event management.

Blending technical vocational education and training with traditional academic curricula, MSU enhances competencies with industry internships, community and creative entrepreneurship, as well as global exposure,

empowering MSU graduates with the well-roundedness sought by employers. Furthermore, various skills enhancement programmes which are aimed at improving competitiveness are also offered to students. The Graduate Employability Skills (GEmS) and Personal Enrichment Competencies (PEC) programme serves to improve their soft skills.

As an applied, enterprise, holistic and international university, MSU offers foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and flexible programmes through an entry system that facilitates admission of students from all walks of life.

■ For the full range of courses offered at FBMP or other faculties and centres, call 03-5521 6868 or visit www.msu.edu.my

MALAYSIA'S PREMIER A LEVEL COLLEGE

### **CAIE A LEVEL RESULTS 2021**



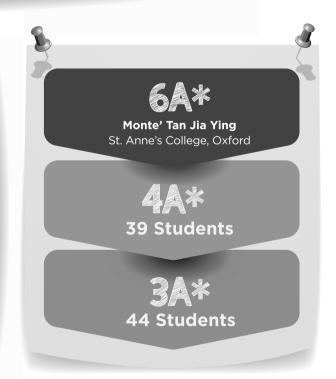
92% of grades gained were at A\* - B

80% of grades gained were A\* - A

66% of students gained at least 3A grades at A

**58%** of students gained straight A\*/A grades

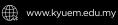
29% of students gained 4A grades at A Level



JANUARY 2022 Intake is now OPEN. Application Deadline is 24 December 2021

16 October & 13 November 2021 **OPEN DAY** 

(a) @kyuem\_official



**f** Kolej Yayasan UEM - KYUEM



Register your interest for the KYUEM Virtual Open Day at https://www.kyuem.edu.my/virtualopenday

## **Engineering a response to Covid-19**

IT is interesting to reflect on the nationwide implementation of the movement control order over the last year amid the Covid-19 pandemic and the changes it has brought.

The pandemic has brought about compelling changes in the way companies in all sectors and regions conduct their businesses, leading to an inevitable surge in the usage of digital technologies.

People have been forced to

People have been forced to adjust to new ways of daily practices and working styles.

By perceiving the glass as half full, plenty of opportunities have been made possible, thanks to the advancements of engineering and technology.

The US-based Pew Research Center (2021) says it expects that the evolution of digital life will continue to be featured for a life balance, including online shopping, contactless payment, entertainment, robotics and information and communications technology.

One of the vast moving trends is online shopping and business opportunities. Previously, the traditional mode of shopping was to have products physically displayed in stores, where consumers were able to view the products in person before deciding to purchase them.

before deciding to purchase them.
However, in accordance with the new standards of procedure for contactless approach, a system known as e-commerce has been engineered to market products.

Similarly, distance learning has been successfully conducted with many educational institutions now offering online programmes to

**Kuala Lumpur Main Campus** 

**Penang Branch Campus** 

**Perak Branch Campus** 

**Johor Branch Campus** 

**Pahang Branch** 

Sabah Branch



Southern UC's 13.2ha (32.5 acres) campus is located in Skudai, Johor Baru. It provides a well-equipped and supportive learning environment.

ensure lifelong learning.

Many online learning sessions are being implemented in virtual reality in the form of online collaboration, digital simulation and many more. Engineers are working relentlessly behind the scenes to ensure that network disruption is kept to a minimum.

End-users can connect with each other despite the enforcement of closed borders and travel restrictions, and students are able to continue their learning virtually despite the indefinite closure of schools and academic institutions.

According to Sumitra Nair in DigitalEdge (2021), digital jobs have surprisingly seen a triple increase in vacancies from June 2020 to April 2021. This finding was based on the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation's (MDEC) findings after it tracked the most popular vacan-

cies in Malaysia since June 2020.

The number of job vacancies has increased about 200% in just one year of the pandemic. MDEC also reported that the most popular jobs requested are software development, data science, information technology (IT) services and e-commerce.

With this promising career prospect in the engineering and IT field, the Southern University College's (Southern UC) Department of Computer Science is offering two diploma programmes – the Diploma in Computer Science and Diploma in Information Technology and a three year full-time course in Bachelor of Software Engineering. All courses have been accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency.

These courses provide students not only with scientific theory and



Southern UC students participating in the 22nd International Technology Exhibition and Robo Sumo Competition in August 2019.

computer science knowledge, but also a range of transferable skills such as problem-solving skills and teamwork, soft skills and management to improve students' competitiveness in the working world.

Southern UC provides a wellequipped and supportive learning environment, and its approachable lecturers are experts in their respective fields.

Meanwhile, the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering in Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology (FEIT) offers a four-year Bachelor of Electronic Engineering with Honours programme and a two and a half-year Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering programme.

The diploma programme has obtained accreditation from the Engineering Technology

Accreditation Council Malaysia, and the course curriculums have been carefully designed and reviewed to meet the quality set by the professional bodies.

Also, rest assured that the degree programme is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Council Malaysia (EAC) (BEM/EAD/02-71/WA/03-2(002)).

EAC accreditation ensures that graduates of the accredited engineering programmes satisfy minimum academic requirements for registration as a graduate engineer with the Board of Engineers Malaysia and admission to graduate membership of the Institution of Engineers Malaysia.

■ For more entry requirements, visit https://www.southern.edu.my/FEIT/en/department/computer/bse.html



011 - 1084 3326 / 03 - 4145 0123 admission@tarc.edu.my
011 - 1082 5618 / 04 - 899 5230 penang@tarc.edu.my
011 - 1075 8513 / 05 - 466 0388 perak@tarc.edu.my
011 - 1082 5624 / 07 - 927 0801/3 johor@tarc.edu.my
011 - 1082 5631 / 09 - 573 8171 pahang@tarc.edu.my
011 - 1082 5619 / 088 - 348 080 sabah@tarc.edu.my



AIMST University, Batu 3 1/2, Bukit Air Nasi, Jalan Bedong-Semeling, 08100 Bedong, Kedah, Malaysia