CMLHS Pioneering UMP-German Programme

Yanti Salina Shaari

12 July 2010. Beginning July 2010, UMP offered a Dual Degree Programme in Mechatronics Engineering with Hochschule Karlsruhe Technik und Wirtschaft (HsKA) University for the Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering and Technology Management (FKPTI). Under this dual degree programme, students who undergo this programme will be awarded by both institutions, UMP and HsKA.

To prepare the students who were selected for the programme, a three month Preparatory Intensive German Course was designed and carried out from July 2010 to September 2010. CMLHS was responsible to offer the course which was conducted by visiting lecturers, Nadia Meryem Amroune and Rita Steinforth. Classes ran daily from 8am till 5pm. Aside from CMLHS, this UMP-German programme was also monitored by UMP International German Office (IGO).

Currently, the students are in their first semester which began in October 2010. Joining them are students from other institutions like German Malaysian Institute (GMI) and International Education Centre (INTEC) of UiTM. They are learning UHGT1002 (Deutsch Sprache 1) an introductory course to the German language that comprises all the skills required to be acquire the language.

The programme is offered to all qualified SPM and A Level candidates.

Rita Steinforth, a representative from HsKA

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CMLHS Seeks out NGO

21 July 2010. The Centre for Modern Languages and Human Sciences (CMLHS) has made another proactive move in seeking opportunities in a global network.

The centre, in an effort to support the establishment of a new faculty, sent four delegates to the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA) International Malaysian Chapter (OMIC) headquarters in Kuala Lumpur (KL). The meeting was to discuss the possibility of establishing a close tie between CMLHS and OMIC by assessing the areas in which both parties are able to contribute for the benefit of UMP students in particular.

The team which was headed by Munira Abdul Razak, the Deputy Dean of Academic Affairs had an initial meeting with the Vice-President of OMIC, Y. Bhg. Dato' Mohd Suffian Abd. Rahman.

As a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO) which dwells in domestic and international issues particularly in relation to youth, OMIC has expressed interest in contributing towards youth development in UMP.

The organisation is strongly supported by its various branches from 36 different countries all over the world. Every year, OMIC arranges potential youths to join a programme in which they have to undergo vocational and industrial trainings in Japan. It is our hope that this initial discussion of collaboration between CMLHS and OMIC will open another pathway for UMP students to gain beneficial experience in the global arena.

Ezibasinda Ngah

Sparks of Hope

6 August 2010. The meeting of CMLHS with the proposed Board of Studies (BOS) panels sparked a new hope for our four intended new programmes. The 5th of August 2010 meeting, arranged at MARA (Mahils Amaranah Rakyat) Headquarters, Kuala Lumpur (KL) was courtesy of OISCA Malaysian Chapter (OMIC). KL and MARA. The panels expressed interests and support towards the new programmes proposed. Nevertheless, constructive suggestions were put forward by the panels for all the new programmes. Among the comments received were on the evaluation of course outcomes, entry requirements, staff and physical implications, course and curriculum structure and market survey.

The centre was honoured to have the UMP Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Internationalisation), Professor Dr. Badruddinsham Abdul Aziz, to chair the meeting on behalf of the centre and the university. The panels invited were from various departments and institutions namely Dato' Mohd Suffian Abd. Rahman, Vice-President of OISCA International Malaysian Chapter, KL, Associate Professor Dr. Fakhruldin Mohd Hashim, Head of Deepwater Technology, R&D Cluster of Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Associate Professor Dr. Hazita Azman of the Centre of Language and Linguistics, UKM, Dr. Manuval Thomas, President of Hospitality and Tourism Association, KL, Mariam Latif, Deputy State Director, Selangor State Health Department, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Olhumn Md Yusof, Chairperson of Nestle Halal Comitee Regulatory Affairs Selangor Darul Ehsan and Haji Ahmad Haji Mubarak, Director, Department of Islamic Advancement of Malaysia (FAKIM) Halal Hub, Selangor Darul Ehsan.

Meanwhile, CMLHS was represented by its management team headed by the Dean, Professor Dr. Abd Laid Borham. The input gained from the meeting was very crucial towards the development of the four new programmes.

The panels verbalised their hopes to see the proposed programmes to become a reality because they could see that the programmes had clear prospects not only in industries but also to the society. Furthermore, the programmes appear to fill in the ‘gaps’ we have in the current job market especially in halal industries.