

UMPSA continues to thrive

T.N. ALABESH
KUALA LUMPUR

RANKED top among the Malaysian Technical University Network and in the 601-800 range in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024, Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah (UMPSA) will continue to thrive in research and innovation, and offer world-class academic programmes.

UMPSA, which marked its 21st anniversary in February this year, will continue to utilise the latest technologies and venture into new technology explorations, focus on efficient financial management and administration, and internationalisation to boost the university's academic reputation on the international stage.

The university will focus on providing community-driven education, research and high-level technology services through the social entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Its Pekan and Gambang campuses have successfully produced 39,664 alumni, who have significantly contributed their energy and expertise to society and towards national development, while the employability rate of its graduates reached 98.67 per cent last year, one of the highest in the country.

UMPSA vice-chancellor Professor Datuk Ts Dr Yuserrrie Zainuddin said the university's collaboration with the industry as a synergistic partner will further empower technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in steering Malaysia towards a technology and innovation-based high-income country.

INTERNATIONAL AND DUAL-DEGREES

Yuserrrie said UMPSA has succeeded in strengthening the good ties spanning over 13 years with German educational institution Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences.

The academic partnership has developed the German Engineering Education Model (hochschule) in the country's technical education system. A dual-degree programme in the fields



Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin with UMPSA staff and students during the opening ceremony of the UMPSA 2023 Open Day and Expo Convocation at the UMPSA Sports Complex.

of mechanical, automotive and electrical engineering was introduced to produce more competent graduates who are able to contribute significantly to the country. The Business Engineering programme was established with our new partner from the Mannheim University of Applied Sciences.

Besides Germany and Kazakhstan, the dual-degree programmes have been expanded to China, involving Beijing Jiaotong University, the Faculty of Computing and the Faculty of Civil Engineering Technology at institutions in South Korea will be soon involved in other new programmes with UMPSA.

"UMPSA is recognised internationally for offering training certificate development and dual-degree academic programmes in the field of rail transport. This is the result of good ties between UMPSA, Beijing Jiaotong University, Malaysia Railway Link and China Communication Construction Company," he said.

EXPANSION AND COLLABORATIONS

Meanwhile, Yuserrrie said there are proposals to open a Graduate School of Business (GSB) and offer merinipen and distance learning courses, such as



UMPSA vice-chancellor Professor Datuk Ts Dr Yuserrrie Zainuddin with dual-degree programme students studying at Beijing Jiaotong University (BJTU) China.

Online Micro-Credentials and Open Distance Learning (ODL).

UMPSA has strengthened its cooperation with Kumpulan Yayasan Sabah and Kolej Teknologi Yayasan Sabah (KTYJS) in the field of education sponsorship and student recruitment. The recent memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed is following the long-term cooperation between all three parties.

"Collaborating with YS will provide the opportunity for more eligible students from Sabah to study at UMPSA, thus allowing them to be part of the Germany and China dual-degree programmes," he said.

He emphasised that UMPSA is always committed to the field of research while maintaining the quality of its achievements through the cooperation with various industry sectors.

"UMPSA's collaborations include with the State Secretary's office (SUJ) Pahang Barat Plus and Pahang Skills in developing the Malaysia Mineral Acad-

emy Pahang (AMPA) in Ligo. AMMP will be a learning centre to offer education and training programmes as well as technical services catering to the mineral industry.

"The collaboration between the Pahang government and UMPSA will be further strengthened with the university prepared to share and contribute its staff and researchers' expertise according to the state government's focus areas. This synergy is not only beyond the perspective of talent, human resources and finance but also involves the transfer of expertise, research, knowledge sharing and consolidation of best practices," he said.

SOURCE OF REFERENCE

Yuserrrie said based on the expertise available, UMPSA always focuses on ensuring that it is the reference point or first referred when providing solutions to issues related to innovation and technology in line with UMPSA's slogan



UMPSA climbers waving the UMPSA flag in conjunction with Malaysia Day and UMPSA's 21st Anniversary Celebration.



UMPSA strives to produce graduates who will contribute to the country.

FACTBOX

UMPSA, previously known as UMP was established as Kolej Universiti Kejuruteraan dan Teknologi Malaysia (KUKTEM) and became the 14th higher learning institution gazetted on Feb 16, 2002.

Focuses on energy sustainability, material science, management and social science, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, vehicle technology, fine and specialty chemicals.

Recognised by the Chinese Education Ministry and Guangxi Province Government to set up the Rail Training Centre at UMPSA.

Ranked 601-800 in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024.

21 UMPSA researchers listed among the world's 'Top 2% Scientists' in the list of outstanding researchers released by United States-based Stanford University.

UMPSA 18TH CONVOCAION

UMPSA Chancellor Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah will grace the 18th convocation ceremony.

Regent of Pahang, Tengku Hassanul Ibrahim Alam Shah proclaimed as UMPSA's pre-chancellor.

Professor Datuk Dr. Mortaza Mohamed awarded Emeritus Professor.

A total of 4,854 graduates — 231 doctor of philosophy and master's graduates, 3,176 bachelor's and diploma graduates and 1,447 UMP Advanced graduates — including 81 international students from 14 countries, will receive their scrolls on Oct 21, 22 and 24 at the Gambang UMPSA Sports Complex.

"Technology For Society"

The university will continuously support the government's agenda in ensuring the country remains competitive to face Industrial Revolution 4.0, changes in the job market due to the use of Artificial Intelligence, automation, and the development of digital technology.

Cooperation with Pahang government agencies is also UMPSA's main focus to ensure that the results can be enjoyed by all levels of society, including focusing on providing talent, research, innovation and knowledge sharing by UMPSA to the community as well as internationalisation in the academic field.

"UMPSA has implemented various initiatives to improve the quality of the environment including activities to conserve resources by targeting a sustainable campus approach and specific initiatives designed to produce a conducive green ecosystem," he said.