Sunway and Victoria students exchange visits

By JESWANT KAUR

SUNWAY College in Petaling Jaya recently welcomed its first foreign exchange student, an Australian named Colin Barrass.

Barrass, whose ethnic background is Anglo-Indian, spent a semester at Sunway under a student exchange arrangement between Sunway and Victoria University.

He arrived last July and enrolled in the three subjects of Consumer Behaviour, Advertising and Public Relations and International Marketing, which were requirements for his final semester before graduation.

For Barrass, it was his love for travelling and getting to know different cultures that made him want to come to Malaysia.

He turned out to be quick in adapting to the local cuisine, and was soon enjoying Ipoh hor fun and kueyteow bandung regularly. The local dishes and friendly environment helped Barrass not to feel homesick.

"I love the environment here, so relaxed and friendly, and hot too!" he quipped before leaving for home after the semester was over.

"This has been a new experience for me, seeing Malaysians eating out most of the time. We Australians do not eat out as much as you do here...but nobody’s complaining, since that means not having to shop, cook and wash up after each meal."

Barrass, however, found the local academic system’s emphasis on open learning to be not as strong as the one in Australia, although “there is more schoolwork to do here than what I am used to.”

After playing host to Barrass, Sunway College selected five of its own Victoria University business students to go and experience life at the university’s Melbourne campus.

The five – Tan Sue Wei, Ng Wai Chee, Aline Tan Siew Siew, Chin Chee Yean and Kristina Hoe – left for Melbourne last month and will spend a semester at the university. They will return in June.

Said Ng, a third year Marketing and International student: “I am happy to be part of the Victoria University family and look forward to a rewarding time in Melbourne.”

Students who enrol in the Sunway-Victoria University (3+0) Bachelor of Business degree programme can choose to specialise in Accountancy, Banking and Finance, International Trade, Marketing, Accountancy/Banking and Finance, Marketing/International Trade and Marketing/International Tourism.

The college has two intakes per year for this programme, in February and July, and selected students will get to spend one semester abroad while paying local fees.