Business degree from top Aussie varsity at Sunway

By A. RAM

BUSINESS studies—which was being offered by Sunway College as a twinning programme in 1994 in association with the Victoria University of Technology—has now been developed into a degree course that can be completed locally within three years.

Victoria University of Technology is one of the top universities in Australia to offer business degree programmes and currently there are more than 270 students attending this course at Sunway College under the 3+0 arrangement between both parties.

"Sunway College believes in quality education and the recent award of a five-star ranking by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia bears testimony to Victoria University of Technology as a top provider for business education at the tertiary level," Sunway College's course director and senior lecturer for VUT business degree programme, Lindsay Smyrk said.

"Sunway College has earned a reputation of offering quality programmes and we are proud to be associated with it because its students are committed and hard-working," Smyrk said.

The Sunway-VUT Bachelor of Business degree course is a three-year programme and it offers four areas of specialisation. They are Accounting, Banking & Finance, Marketing and International Trade.

Students can choose to major in any subject and the normal combinations preferred by them are Accounting and Banking & Finance or Marketing and International Trade.

For the whole degree course, students have to complete a total of 24 out of 40 subjects. In the first year, they do eight common core subjects and this is followed by specialisations in the second year where they complete eight subjects, including two support subjects.

In the final year, they will take up another eight elective subjects to complete the course for a degree in Bachelor of Business.

It is a cost-effective programme and students can save up to RM100,000 over three years in tuition fees and cost of living expenses by studying here. The tuition fees are RM6,500, RM7,500 and RM9,000 per semester for the first, second and third year respectively.

Students are required to undergo several practical coursework assignments that are likened to real-life business situations so that they will have a competitive edge over others when they enter the job market.

Another important development at the university is its recent merger with the Western Melbourne Institute of TAFE and this means students, industries and the wider community can have access to 14 campuses that are strategically located across Melbourne's central and western regions.

The high standards set upon the teaching staff and the excellent facilities at the college have enable Sunway students to constantly achieve remarkably high passing rates in their examinations.

In the recent first year examinations, 11 per cent of the students scored distinctions in all eight subjects, 12 per cent had seven distinctions and another nine per cent had six with 42 per cent obtaining four distinctions.

Terence Chai Shau Min did extremely well by scoring eight distinctions. He is now in the second year of the Bachelor of Business degree course and plans to major in accounting.

Sunway College attributes its students' success to the frequent visits by professors and lecturers from the university to Sunway College.

During the visits, students get a chance to interact with the professors and lecturers who provide teaching and academic counselling besides discussing problems related to the subjects, courses and the university itself.

The next intake for Sunway-VUT business degree is on July 14. For more information, call (03) 735-8622 or fax (03) 735-8633 or visit Sunway's homepage at www.sunway.edu.my.