STUDENTS taking up Business courses at Sunway College will have the distinction of earning a bachelor's degree from a top Australian university — the Victoria University of Technology.

Currently, more than 270 students are pursuing this course at Sunway College under a 3+0 agreement.

The programme was introduced at Sunway College on a twinning basis in 1994 and since then, the college has developed it into a degree course whereby students can complete it locally within three years.

"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 of Business education at tertiary level," Victoria University of Technology's course co-ordinator-cum-senior lecturer from the Department of Applied Economics, Faculty of Business, Lindsay Smyrk said.

Smyrk said in choosing Sunway College to offer its Business degree programme, the university was attracted by the college's university-like environment and top-class facilities.

"Sunway College has earned a reputation to offer quality programmes and we are proud to be associated with it because its students are committed and hardworking with some of them performing better than their counterparts in Australia," Smyrk, here on a working visit to Sunway College, said.

The Sunway/VUT Bachelor of Business degree course offers areas of specialisation — Accounting, Banking & Finance, Marketing and International Trade.

For the 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 specialisation and elective subjects which are taken in the second and third years. Students need to complete eight specialisation and eight elective subjects to complete the Bachelor of Business course.

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 RM8,000 per semester for the first, second and third year respectively.

The high standards set by the teaching staff and the excellent facilities at the Sunway College have ensured its students constantly achieve remarkably high pass rates in their examinations.

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

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

The college's top students were commended for their excellent performances when the university's Department of Applied Economics head Professor Ken Wilson met them at the college recently. Also present were Sunway College's director Lee Weng Keng, academic director Dr Tan Toh Wah and principal Elizabeth Lee.

Other programmes offered by Sunway College include pre-university courses like A-levels, Canadian Matriculation and Australian Matriculation which are recognised for admission to universities.

The next intake for Sunway/VUT Business degree is on July 14. For more information, call 03-7358622 or fax 03-7358633 or visit Sunway's homepage at www.sunway.edu.my.

By A. Ram