Choices for WMU twinning programme

By Tina Melan

Those seeking to pursue an American degree should check out Sunway College and Western Michigan University’s twinning degree programme.

The twinning arrangements include degree programmes in Business Administration, Engineering, Computer Science, Mass Communications and Natural Sciences.

All programmes in the WMU twinning programmes take four years, requiring approximately 16 to 20 months of study at Sunway and another 20 months at WMU.

Those keen to pursue engineering degrees can choose a major ranging from Electrical, Electronics, Computer Hardware, Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering.

Students interested in the Natural Sciences field can opt for a major in Biomedical Science or Psychology.

At a recent graduation ceremony held at Sunway for transferring students, Biomedical Management student Leow Yin Yin won both the Tan Sri Datuk Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Scholastic Award and the coveted Marie Noyes Scholarship Award from the Office of International Affairs at WMU.

Leow won the latter, worth RM3,800, for her outstanding grade point average of 3.97.

Another student who won the Marie Noyes Scholarship Award was Henry Phua, for his grade point average of 3.87.

Being associated with a top American university means Sunway College students are assured of quality education in a wide variety of disciplines.

WMU is ranked among the nation’s top 100 public universities in the United States and it has also earned the recognition as one of the 300 institutions of higher learning in the US to be accredited by the American Assembly of College Schools of Business.

According to the US News College Ranking, WMU is ranked at number 19 for institutions which offer undergraduate and Master’s programmes in engineering studies.

The resident director, Professor Richard W. Pippen, said student enrolment for all the twinning programmes are very encouraging.

"My primary duties is to ensure that the college’s programme quality is at par with that of WMU," he said.

The courses, syllabus and other materials used for the programme at Sunway are the same as those at WMU.

There are currently more than 300 students attending the various Sunway/WMU programmes. Sunway introduced its twinning programme with WMU in 1987 and since then, more than 2,000 students have successfully transferred to the university in pursuit of an American degree.

Students at Sunway study in a ‘global’ atmosphere, as there are 880 international students from 46 countries attending the college.

The students come from many parts of the world including Brunei, the Maldives, Oman, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, Canada, Korea, Kyrgyzstan and Iraq.

Sunway College is a non-profit educational institution, formalised by its Trust Fund set up in 1997.

The next intake for the programme is in January.

All information on the WMU programme can be obtained via telephone at 03-735 8622 or fax enquiries to 03-735 8633.