Sunway-WMU partnership offers wide choice of degree courses

By A. RAM

Sunway College introduced its twinning programmes with the Western Michigan University in 1987 and since then, more than 2,000 students have successfully transferred to the university in pursuit of an American degree.

The twinning programmes offered by Sunway College in partnership with WMU in US include degree courses in business administration, engineering, computer science, mass communications and natural sciences.

All twinning programmes are four-year courses requiring about two years (16-20 months) of study at Sunway College and another two years at WMU.

For engineering studies, the students will complete 70-74 credit hours at Sunway College with another 60 in the US depending on their majors. Business Administration students will do 68 credit hours locally and 54 in the US.

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

WMU is listed as one of the 100 Best Buys Colleges in the US and it has also earned the recognition as one of the 300 institutions of higher learning in US to be accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

According to the US News College Ranking, WMU is also ranked as the 19th in the US which offers undergraduate and masters programmes in engineering studies.

A strong point for students enrolled in the American twinning programmes at Sunway College is the presence of a resident director at the campus at all times to oversee the delivery of the programmes and also to attend to their needs.

The resident director for Western Michigan University at Sunway College, Professor Richard W. Pippen said the student enrolment for all the twinning programmes is very encouraging.

Pippen said he is very glad to see a significant increase in the last two years for students taking up psychology.

He said there are now more than 20 students doing this course at Sunway College and one of his primary duties is to ensure that the college maintains the quality of its programmes to be on par with that of the university.

Pippen said the courses, syllabus, textbooks and other materials used for the programmes are the same as those used at WMU.

One important aspect of the programmes is the opportunity given to students to put into practice what they learn in classes.

An example was the one-day jamboree sale at Sunway campus organised by 35 students of the marketing class. It was a class project for them to demonstrate their skills acquired while learning.

Currently, there are 360 students attending various American twinning programmes at Sunway College.

Its next intake is on September 7 and the entry qualification is SPM or its equivalent. Sunway College also considers advanced entry for students who possess A-Levels, STPM or their equivalent.

Besides the twinning programmes with WMU, Sunway College also offers a wide variety of courses ranging from pre-university, professional and financial to degree courses that can be completed locally without the students having to go overseas.

The professional and financial courses include Association of Business Executives (ABE), Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), Diploma in Executive Secretarial Office Management (DES), London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), National Computing Centre (NCC) and Certified Accounting Technician (CAT).

Pre-university courses include GCE A-Levels, Canadian Matriculation Programme and Australian Matriculation Programme.

Its other twinning programmes are with the University of Greenwich in the UK and Victoria University of Technology in Australia.

English language and short IT courses are also available for those who wish to improve on their existing skills towards job advancement.

Sunway College also offers excellent facilities which are comparable to that of any leading foreign university.

For more information on Sunway College-WMU twinning programmes and other courses, tel: (03) 735-8622 or fax: (03) 735-8633.