



Education Special

It's less stressful at Sunway

By MARINA TAN

STUDYING for an examination can be stressful, even more so if these exams are the only mode of assessment for students.

However, students at Sunway College have been spared of these "stressful examinations".

Sunway College's Canadian Matriculation Programme (CMP) offers students a change of pace in their educational careers.

The CMP is identical to that offered in secondary schools in Ontario, Canada, and this diploma is recognised for admission into undergraduate programmes at most universities.

Instead of a single evaluation by an examination, the programme emphasises continuous evaluation through assignments, projects and coursework that weigh heavily in the total accumulated points in their respective subjects.

To ensure that the curriculum and evaluation guidelines are in compliance with those set in Canada, the programme is inspected annually, by the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training.

The programme which began in 1990 and has given quality education and training to more than 2,000 students. It has two intakes in a year - January and



March.

It gives opportunities to non-Science based Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia students to explore the Sciences, as well as those who, after Form Five, find their academic background inadequate to enter a pre-university programme.

Form Five students usually take six pre-university or Ontario Academic Courses (OAC). They will have to study English as a Second Language (ENGOA), and other OAC subjects necessary for admission into their desired university programme.

Upon completion of the six OAC sub-

jects, the students will receive the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) - their passports to universities worldwide, including Australia, Britain, US and New Zealand.

Many students choose to stay at Sunway College to join one of the twinning programmes, especially with the new Monash University campus at Bandar Sunway.

For students who need additional skills or knowledge for a pre-university course, CMP also offers a pre-OAC foundation programme to prepare the students to take pre-university OAC subjects.

The OAC subjects offered include Accounting, Economics, Law, Computer Studies, English, Geography, History, Calculus, Algebra and Geometry, Biology, Chemistry, Math, Families in Society and Physics.

The fee for all subjects is RM1,300.

One of CMP's main attractions is its flexibility. Students can select three or four subjects per semester. Each semester lasts five months, and most students complete the required OSSD subjects in two or three semesters.

At the last CMP graduation ceremony three students - Mindy Chong Li Min, Koh Choo Teen and Lim Fang Chii - received the Award of Excellence with Distinction. Mindy and Fang Chii were also selected to receive the Tan Sri Datuk Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Award and the Principal's Award respectively.

Class Valedictorian Kee Jon-Tjin said: "We have all proudly met and overcome the challenges of CMP education. This journey that we all shared has prepared us for challenges yet ahead."

The CMP also offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities, initiated by both students and teachers.

Each year selected graduating students receive Certificates of Recognition for Outstanding Leadership for their contribution in extra-curricular activities.

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