

How to shine in real world

By HANIM MELAN

WHEN parents dream of academic success for their children, they also wish for their children to be more than achievers in the examination stakes. They know that it takes more than just great grades and first class honours degrees to make it in the real world.

It takes common sense, energy, skills, leadership qualities, charm... the list goes on and on. Often, students need to go outside the classroom to acquire these skills.

"Towards this end, we have always encouraged the nurturing of complementary skills like music, computer knowledge, art, drama and sports," said Ms Elizabeth Lee, the vice-principal of Sunway College.

There are a total of 26 clubs and societies.

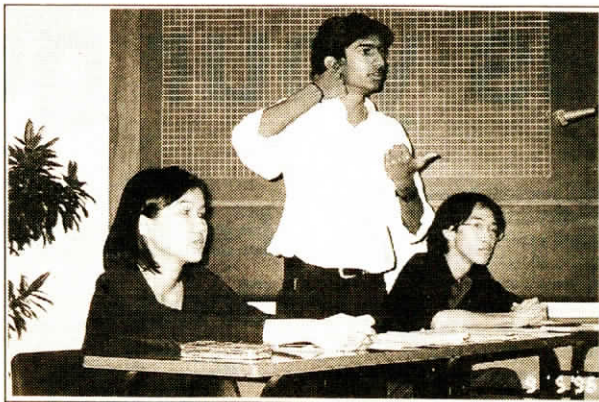
The college has a team of counsellors in the Student Services Department who are trained to help develop their personal skills to complement their intellectual growth through year-long activities.

These counsellors are full-time staff who form the basis for the student development programmes conducted to hone the students' skills in exam techniques, effective study habits and revisions. Meanwhile, a sports officer provides advice to those with more physical inclinations.

With the kind of support system in place, students are assured of an environment where they can fully concentrate on their studies and personal development and therefore getting a balanced education.

These are perhaps the contributing factors which has resulted in Sunway's students performance. In most programmes, Sunway has achieved passing rates of 95 per cent to 100 per cent.

Lee said: "We seek to understand the needs and level of skills of the students before recommending the best course of action for them. Some find that they can excel at examinations, but others are at their best producing A-



DEBATE: Students sharpen communicative skills

grade coursework, which is equally important in an assessment of ability. We help the individual find the programme that build on their strength."

The college has twinning degree arrangements with the Leicester University and University of Greenwich in the United Kingdom; Western Michigan University (US), University of Waikato (New Zealand); and University of Western Australia, Monash University, Flinders University and Victoria University in Australia.

At Flinders University, the Bachelor of Economics degree programme enables students to study up to one and half years of their degree at the college and the final leg at the university.

Subsequently, students can specialise in various areas of interest - international trade and finance, money and banking, Asian economics, public finance and public policy, and industry policy.

The Bachelor of Economics degree allows students to combine studies in Economics with Asian studies, politics and international relations, Asian and European languages, legal studies and information technology.

At Victoria University of Technology, students will enjoy dynamic and pertinent majors offered in the Bachelor of Business programme. This includes Accounting, Computing, International Trade, Travel and Tourism Management, Catering and Hotel Manage-

ment, Retail Management, Banking and Finance, Marketing and management.

The University of Waikato also has twinning arrangements with Sunway College. Its Bachelor of Management

Studies degree course is a four-year course with "Honours" awarded to successful students.

The course allows students to major in Accounting, Finance, Management Systems, Management Communications, Economics, Marketing and International Management, Strategic Management and Leadership.

The next intake for Flinders University, Victoria University of Technology and University of Waikato is July 15.

In addition to degree courses, Sunway also conducts three pre-university programmes: Cambridge GCE 'A' Levels, Western Australia Matriculation (TEE) and Canadian Matriculation to cater for unique and diverse needs of Malaysian students.

For the July intake, the

'A' Level programmes at the college are tailored to suit students own requirements and circumstances. Students can pace themselves comfortably in order to either join university programmes in January 1998, or do the accelerated option to complete their 'A' Level course in time for university's autumn 1997 intake.

The Canadian Matriculation Programme runs two types of courses: Ontario Academic Courses (OAC) and Pre-OAC courses, for the students admitted conditionally or who lack basic skills in key subjects.

The next intake for the CMP is July and the Western Matriculation Programme will be in December.

For students wishing to study locally, a range of professional courses are avail-

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able: the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA), Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), the University of London Bachelor of Laws (External), Association of Business Executive (ABE) and London Chamber of Commerce (LCCI).

Intakes for the CIM and ABE I courses start this month. There is a July intake for CIM and ABE II courses.

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