Express route to financial expertise

BY TEE LIN DEE

BACKED by the award-winning Sunway Group, Sunway University College (SyUC) began its life in 1987 as Sunway College when it was incepted by founder and chairman, Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah.

Sunway University College today is located in the growing township of Bandar Sunway, an education complex with world-class sporting, academic and hostel facilities.

From its humble beginnings as an institute pioneering twinning programmes, it has since gained a reputation for providing internationally recognised programmes through its long established ties with reputable institutions and universities in Britain, Australia and the United States.

In 1994, Sunway TES, the financial courses division of SyUC made inroads into quality accounting programmes when it became a tuition provider of the British-based Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).

Graduates armed with an ACCA professional accounting qualification can act as public accountants. Those with this qualification have never had problems getting jobs.

The ACCA is the largest international accounting body in the world with 345,000 members and students in 170 countries. In 2003, Sunway TES was the first in the world to be granted the ACCA "Premier Plus Status" by ACCA outside the European Union. Sunway TES was accorded this highest level of accreditation in recognition of its consistently high passing rates which surpass those of the ACCA worldwide passing rates.

Sunway TES students have proven their academic prowess by consistently emerging among the top ACCA students worldwide, as shown by the 26 World Prize Winners and 126 Malaysian Prize winners, to date.

The Certified Accounting Technician (CAT), a technical level accounting professional qualification also offered by the ACCA is available at Sunway TES. CAT graduates acquire the skills to fulfil a supporting role in accountancy. This qualification is equivalent to the first year of a university degree and is open to post SPM, 'O' levels or its equivalent students.

In an innovative agreement between Sunway TES and Oxford Brookes University (OBU) in Britain, ACCA students who have completed Part 1 and 2 of the ACCA examinations will be awarded the BSc (Hons) in Applied Accounting upon completion of a Research & Analysis Project assessed by OBU. Sunway TES has so far produced 59 graduates with a First Class honours and 146 Second Class honours.

A CAT graduate may join directly into Part 2 of the ACCA and then proceed as with other ACCA students, to complete the BSc (Hons) in Applied Accounting.

The all-important work experience allows students to hone their accounting skills in real life situations and build contacts with business leaders.

Sunway TES is committed to helping students go beyond the classroom.

ACCA and BSc (Hons) in Applied Accounting graduates are placed into employment with the "Big 4" professional services firms almost immediately upon graduation. In the recent ACCA and CAT graduation ceremony at Sunway TES this October, the school produced an ACCA world prize winner, Lim Yong Shi who scored the highest in Financial Management and Control.

The Sunway TES CAT programme produced four world prize winners in five papers; Lim Li-Yin (Maintaining Financial Records), Choong Woon Wei (Maintaining Financial Records), Celina Chan Yee Ling (Planning Control and Performance Management) and Ang Kar Hseng, who was awarded two world prizes (Drafting Financial Statements and Preparing Taxation Communications).

To date RM22mil has been disbursed in scholarships and awards to deserving students. Enrolment for the January intake for ACCA and CAT courses at Sunway is now open.

For more information, visit www.sunway.edu.my or call 03-74918622 ext 8017/8030

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