ACCOUNTANTS: MANAGERS OF VALUE

On the fast track at Sunway TES

By Zeeneeshri Ramadass

ACCOUNTANCY is not a static profession. It adapts to technological innovations and changes in the business climate.

In doing so, accountancy is now seen as one of the most valuable, progressive and exciting qualifications.

Sunway TES Sdn Bhd, a member of The Sunway Group, was established in 1994 as the financial courses arm of Sunway University College, under the mentorship of Teo Ee Sing.

Currently, it offers two programmes — Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and Certified Accounting Technician (CAT).

“I wanted to provide an education where students can get a professional certificate through the fastest path,” Teo said, adding that students can complete the ACCA programme in two to three years.

With the aim of bringing teaching on a par with the United Kingdom, Teo and his team worked hard and this won Sunway TES the ACCA Premier Plus Status in 2003.

“The status is subject to verification. Every six months, our ACCA results are reviewed and must be on a par with the world and the international pass rate in order to maintain the Premier Plus Status,” said Teo, adding that Sunway TES has maintained its status thus far.

Upon completion of the ACCA Professional scheme and three years of supervised practical experience, graduates will obtain ACCA status.

“I think this is one of the shortest routes for one to become a professional accountant. Even if you enrol with SPM results, the duration it takes to get a degree and professional qualification is merely three years.”

With SPM results, students would have to enrol in the CAT for a year before pursuing the ACCA programme.

“However, they would be exempt from ACCA Part 1 and that saves them a year. If you do decide to pursue your degree at other universities before getting the ACCA, you would have to study for about seven years to get the same qualification that Sunway TES ACCA students achieve in three years.”

Teo added that students do not have to go to the UK to get the degree.

“The beauty of the programme is that students do not have to go to the UK to get the degree. Hence, it is cost and time effective. Students also have the option to do it part-time.”

Sunway TES has consistently produced high achievers. Its phenomenal record of achievers includes 31 world prize winners and 135 Malaysian prize winners.

Tan Yong Chen, 19, said: “I joined the college with an entrance scholarship, covering part of my tuition fees. When I won the Malaysian prize, Sunway refunded the fee on my prized paper. Now, I get a 50 per cent discount on all subsequent fees for my course.

“This build my confidence. Now, I’m aiming to win more prizes.”

To date, there are 1,700 Sunway TES students, out of which, 300 are from 20 countries.

For more information, visit www.sunway.edu.my or call 03-7491-8622.

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Ang Fei Ling, 22, two-time world prize winner said Sunway offers the best accountancy courses.

“After completing ACCA, I stand a chance of working with one of the Big Four. That’s a dream come true for me,” said Ang who also has a Malaysian prize under her belt.

(The Big Four are Kassim Chan, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Ernst & Young, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers.)