

THE Universiti Teknologi Malaysia's International Business School (UTM-IBS) was rated by Eduniversal Ranking, a university ranking by French consulting company and rating agency SMBG as the No.1 excellent business school in Malaysia last year.

UTM-IBS first started as one of UTM's centres of excellence and became a graduate school of management in 1997. It is now a full-fledged business school that offers master's in business administration (MBA) programme with specialisations in strategic management, technology entrepreneurship and health care management.

UTM-IBS also offers executive development programmes (EDP) that utilise a number of short courses covering all aspects of managing an organisation.

This wide array of specialisation is in line with Malaysia's vision and the industrial needs of the Asian region to nurture industry captains, corporate leaders, innovation champions and global entrepreneurs who spur inclusive growth for the country and the region.

In order to support the rise of these critical talents, UTM-IBS aims to sharpen those with potential by providing them contemporary competitive skills, strategic thinking skills and ethical insights. The experiences and exposure they gain from the learning processes will enhance their confidence and holistic competencies. The UTM-IBS Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) was created

Enhancing confidence and holistic competencies



Datuk Syed Manshor Syed Mahmood (first row, third from left), managing director of Adabi together with his staff and the staff of UTM-IBS at the Adabi graduation ceremony that was held upon the completion of the company's executive development programme.

to meet these needs.

UTM-IBS offers learners taught courses within the DBA programme. The courses are developed based on industry-driven and practical orientation that focuses on the learners' abilities to sharpen their managerial, entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

In the field of business

administration, UTM-IBS strives to provide a relevant and contemporary DBA programmes that focuses on business innovation and strategies. The school intends to equip its DBA learners with effective research skills that will enable them to perform exceptional research work. Through its engagement with the industry and relevant

stakeholders, UTM-IBS generates a DBA curriculum that enhances learners' career development and professional well-being.

The DBA programme is a professional doctorate that requires students to apply existing theories and frameworks while finding new frontiers of practical knowledge for the benefit of industry eco-system.

During the first two years, learners will attend formal training sessions in research methods and other relevant disciplines. Students are expected to write an extensive review on their area of interest and an equally detailed research proposal during this first stage.

In the second stage of their studies, the taught element is reduced and learners will spend more time on their research project and preparing for their research thesis. With the combination of lectures and focused research projects with the industry, this programme provides a useful guideline for students to look beyond short-term solutions.

UTM-IBS has been collaborating with various renowned business schools and one such collaboration is with professors from the Harvard Business School (HBS).

Through this relationship, UTM-IBS has made HBS a benchmark to improve its performance and quality in business education.

Recently, UTM-IBS appointed HBS faculty members such as Prof Dr Diego Comin, a renowned figure in business administration, as visiting professors to assist UTM-IBS in achieving its goal of becoming one of the leading business schools in the region and also to enhance the school's ranking internationally.

The EDP is tailored exclusively to further enhance the capability of the participants' managerial and entrepreneurial competencies. The programmes focus on preparing participants to face the ever-changing demands of the market.

This is done through the advancement of management knowledge through special courses conceived by market-oriented teaching and related training. Recently, UTM-IBS organised a graduation day for the staff of Adabi who successfully completed the EDP courses.

UTM-IBS' next intake is in September.

■ For more information visit www.ibs.utm.my