EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

They come from across the world

A sia e University (AEU) recently held its fourth convocation ceremony at Putrajaya World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur. Graduates from around the world, several ambassadors and representatives from foreign embassies, particularly from the 33 Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) countries, attended the event.

More than 1,200 graduates received their degrees and celebrated their success with their families and friends. Twelve of them received their Doctor of Philosophy, two received their Doctor of Business Administration, 177 master’s, 336 bachelor’s, 21 graduate diplomas, 820 executive master’s and 44 professional bachelor’s degrees. Of those graduates, about 300 were from Namibia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and other ACD countries.

Among the highlights was the conferment of Doctor of Philosophy degree on Namibian Education Minister Dr David Richard Namwandu. Namwandu was recently awarded a PhD in higher education systems in Namibia. He believes in equality and quality in education in Namibia.

Born in Oshikoto region, in the Okakarara District, Namibia, Namwandu, at the age of 60, was elected as a member of National Assembly and appointed as deputy minister of education in 2010. He was also a central committee member of the ruling Swapo Party in Namibia. He was appointed minister last year.

With his experience as board member, chairman of companies and educational institutions, he also served on the board of the National Council of Higher Education as the chairman of Accreditation and Quality Assurance Committee, as well as the vice-chairman in the Vice-Chancellors and Rectors Forum. He is the founder of the first and only fully accredited private university, the International University of Management (IUM), Windhoek, Namibia. Established in 1994, IUM has a student population of 8,500 in five satellite campuses in the country. He served as its chairman and vice-chancellor until his appointment as deputy minister of education.

He has received awards and recognitions for his contributions locally and globally.

Among the credits earned are the Education Leadership Award at the World Marketing Summit, Malta (2013), the Outstanding Contribution to Education Award by the Central Bank of India, Mumbai, India (2012), and the International B-School Leadership, Educational Excellence Award, Le Maitre, Mauritius (2012). Accordingly, he is also the chairman of the Namibian National Commission for UNESCO.

He has been a PhD student with AEU since 2007. His thesis, “Implementation of the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Education and Training and its Impact on Economic Development: A Case Study of Namibia and Zimbabwe,” studied the

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reasons behind the failure to implement the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Education and Training (SADC-PET). This study reveals the significant factors that hampered the implementation of SADC-PET, despite its goals of developing a comparable and harmonised education, and training policies in SADC countries.

It is confirmed that AEU’s Doctor of Philosophy programme has broadened learning and knowledge about Asia, the Saharan and Sub-Saharan regions and beyond. He said researchers would be intellectually stimulated and to provide accessible and affordable higher education for all.

AEU has garnered several awards such as the Brand Laureate Awards 2010 for ‘Best Brand in Education — e-Education,’ and the Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Awards 2010 under the “Most Promising Entrepreneur” category. Additionally, in 2012, the University was announced as the “best ACD Project” during the ACD Meeting in Kuwait.

It offers more than 40 academic programmes at all levels through the five academic schools: School of Management, School of Education & Cognitive Science, School of Information & Communications Technology, School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, and School of Graduate Studies. AEU programmes are internationally benchmarked, approved by the Malaysian Education Ministry and accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency.

In addition, AEU academic programmes are recognised by several ACD countries as well as non-ACD countries.

The university offers more than 200 executive and professional programmes through the School of Professional & Executive Education and School of Technical Education Engineering & Re-skilling.

Apart from its main campus, AEU has established a network of learning centres nationwide. These centres are located in major cities and towns, and rural areas.

For details, visit www.aeuniversity.org

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