

AeU gaining popularity in all education programmes

AeU's School of Education and Cognitive Science (SECS) is currently the largest faculty at AeU. It has nearly 4,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students. The programmes offered in SECS are 1) PhD in Education 2) Master of Education, 3) Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education Teaching 4) Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) (Hons) 5) Bachelor of Education in Teaching English as a Second Language (Hons) 6) Bachelor of Education (Teaching Malay Language in Primary School) (Hons) 7) Bachelor of Education (Teaching Science in Primary School) (Hons) 8) Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education 9) Graduate Diploma in Teaching

Prof. Dr. John Arul Phillips, Dean of the SECS says "One KPI of a developing country is to have at least 60% of primary school teachers who are graduates. However most Malaysian teachers are SPM and diploma holders – thus it's important to raise the standard of education qualification."

"A viable way to encourage them to go back to university is part-time learning where we bring the classroom to them. Our Bachelor of Education programme is dedicated to upgrade primary school teachers with diplomas to degree qualification, adding that the programme is accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) under the Ministry of Higher Education," he added.

"To elaborate on blended learning, there are 10 hours face-to-face tutorials conducted over weekends in AeU's learning centres all over Malaysia. Students meet an average of once a month with AeU's academic facilitators and the balance is made up by full materials that are downloaded through our personalized learning system over the internet," says Prof John. The programme focuses on three areas: Teaching of English as a second language (TESL), Teaching of Bahasa Melayu and Early Childhood Education. It takes four years to complete the degree and AeU expects its first batch to graduate in 2014.

Besides school teachers, there are people from all walks of life interested to enter into the field of education. For the Master's of Education programme, 80% to 90% of students are from the private sector. There is a growing demand for training and development. Today many people who deal with adult learners are practicing education without proper knowledge and without knowing the theory, says Prof John.

The Master's programme contains 10 different specializations, including popular areas like Nursing Education, Early Childhood Education, Curriculum & Instruction, Education Psychology, Educational Management, Science Education, Instructional Technology, Higher Education Teaching, Educational Assessment & Evaluation and Teaching English as a Second Language. With the government's open-entry admission requirement policy, students entering this programme are increasing. Non-graduates with relevant experience can apply to do a Master's degree programme under AeU's Open Entry System.

Another programme gaining popularity is the Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education, where majority of the current students are kindergarten teachers. Only a very small



Prof. Dr. John Arul Phillips

percentage of early childhood educators have relevant qualifications, says Prof John, adding that after completing the two year programme, students can go on to obtain a bachelor's degree with additional two years programme.

Flexible Admission through a Normal Entry or via Open Entry

Admissions to bachelor programmes are through either normal entry or open entry. AeU's open entry system encourages lifelong learning and accepts individuals who wish to pursue higher education even if they lack the basic education requirement stated in the normal entry as candidates are assessed by their prior learning acquired through formal and informal training, as well as work experiences that can compensate for the lack of actual paper qualifications. The Open Entry requirements for Bachelor and Graduate Diploma programmes regulates that a candidate must be at least 21 years old, possess a minimum of PMR/SRP/LCE or equivalent and a recognised prior learning experience. The Open Entry requirement for postgraduate programme regulates that a candidate must be at least 35 years old, possess STPM/Matriculation/Diploma/ 'A' level or equivalent and recognised prior learning experience.

Intakes

There are three intakes annually; January, May and September. Though registrations are open based on the month of intakes, registrations for postgraduate programmes (by research) are open throughout the year. Registration is available via Online Application at www.aeu.edu.my.

Meet us at AeU's Education Fairs:

Event: NAPEI 33rd Malaysian Education Fair

Date: 14th-15th June 2014

Time: 10.00 am - 6.00 pm

Venue: Mid Valley Exhibition Centre, Kuala Lumpur

Event: Higher Education Fair 2014

Date: 19th-20th July 2014

Time: 10.00 am - 6.00 pm

Venue: Mid Valley Exhibition Centre, Kuala Lumpur

For further inquiries, please call us at toll-free 1 300 300 238, or visit www.aeu.edu.my