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GRADUANDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRATE WITH ASIA e UNIVERSITY

KUALA LUMPUR, 22nd April 2012 - 511 current and future leaders from around the world received their degrees during the Asia e University (AeU) 2nd Convocation 2012 on 22nd April at Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur. Graduands from AeU's School of Management, Education, Information Communication & Technology, Professional and Executive Education from Malaysia, Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Bahrain celebrated their success with their teachers, parents, family and friends.

To celebrate the Asian centric graduands, AeU staff wore colorful national costumes from Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) member countries. AeU was set up as a Malaysian Government initiative to support e-education as one of the main thrusts of ACD.

This year, AeU graduated 2 Doctor of Philosophy students, 33 Master of Education students, 2 Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education Teaching students, 32 Master of Business Administration students, 18 Master of Business Administration (In collaboration with International Business School of Scandinavia) students, 3 Master of Knowledge Management students, 12 Master in Management students and more than 400 executive programme students from Masters and Bachelor levels.

As a leading university in Asia delivering "dual-mode" programmes – a combination of full time mode and Online Distance Learning (ODL) mode - the large number of postgraduate and executive graduands within 4 short years is an impressive achievement, as mentioned by the university Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Dr Syed Jalaludin Syed Salim, "Even though AeU is regarded as young in the education sector, I believe we have taken great strides in building human capital and uniting the education needs of the diverse Asian community".

Among the 2012 convocation highlights is the conferment of the Honorary Doctorate Degree in Education to Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University and the Honorary Master of Arts to YB Dato' Hj Nooh bin Gadot, Advisor to the Religious Council of Negeri Johor.

A notable figure who has received many Awards and Distinctions for his efforts in advancing higher education systems in Asia and the Pacific, Dr Pornchai believes wholeheartedly in borderless collaboration, "Universities must collaborate in promoting peace, assurance of a safe and quality environment. Linkages must be encouraged for better knowledge sharing".

Dato' Haji Nooh has in his years of service made significant contributions to the promotion of Islamic education and instrumental in facilitating the collaboration between AeU and the Islamic College of Johor (MARSAH) in Islamic education.

The annual AeU Chairman's Award was given to two graduands who were the top of their class; namely Suratman Masohan from Master of Education, who gave heartfelt congratulations to his 32 other fellow class mates who is graduating with him this year, "Although the journey was not an easy one, we finally made it through sheer determination and resilience. Congrats to one and all!"

On the other hand, Ms Chee Lai Sim received the Chairman's Award for Master of Business Administration and believes strongly in lifelong learning, "It is never too old to learn and grow. With the right motivation and hunger to improve oneself, dreams can be fulfilled. I am proud to have made it."

ODL education puts the learner at the driver's seat of his learning experience. Working adults especially embrace this mode of learning as one can control the pace of study, as well as pick and choose amongst numerous specialisations that are designed to make the learner more relevant and skillful at the workplace.

Many of AeU graduands are working adults who have left their studies for some time and it took persistence, determination as well as support from AeU family to complete their studies. Satvinder Kaur from the education sector relied on programme mates and relished the experience of being a student all over again, "It was fun going to the university on weekends to do assignments".

One of AeU's international graduands Phan Thi Thanh Hien from Vietnam from Master of Business Administration (Dual Award) was thankful to graduate, "I would like to express my very sincere thanks to everyone from AeU who have helped a lot to complete this course."

All the way from Sudan, Fatin Ahmed Elhaj felt that "AeU exceeded all of my expectations. I really like the online educational system". And right here in our homeland, Sukumaran Sinnathamby was amazed at the comprehensive digital library facilities, "I have never seen so many academic journals in my life!"

The founder and firm believer of asian-centric borderless education, AeU's President / CEO Prof. Dato' Dr Ansary Ahmed gives a positive message to 2012 graduands, "Always take with you the memories, the knowledge and the self-satisfaction of a job well done. Recount the wonderful bonds of friendships you have activated through your studies at AeU and the network of professional relationships that will assist you in your career". Prof. Ansary encourages all graduands to partake in the exciting alumni activities planned in coming years.

The 2nd Convocation event received great support from all parties and was attended by **YB Senator A. Kohilan Pillay, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Y. Bhg. Prof. Dato' Dr Mahani Zainol Abidin (DG, ISIS), HE Mohamed Saad Ibrahim Ebeid (Arab Embassy)** and other public sector representatives. AeU also had the honour of hosting several international partners from India, Indonesia, Middle East, etc.

About Asia e University (AeU)

AeU is a flexible multinational university officially established in April 2007. Set in Asia, by Asians for Asia under the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD). Its establishment is an initiative of Malaysia as the prime mover for e-education, with the support of 31 ACD member countries as confirmed at the Islamabad 2005 and Doha 2006 ACD Ministerial Meetings.

The vision of the University is to be a leader and a premier educational hub in the promotion of affordable and quality e-learning in Asia. Its mission is to work in collaboration with universities, institutions and corporations, drawing upon their collective expertise, prestige and resources to provide quality Higher Education and Lifelong Learning. Presently AeU has ventured into more than 20 of the 31 ACD countries.

The global inter-connecting nature of Asia e University forms the catalyst for creating a progressive knowledge community in the Asian and Middle Eastern region through the application of a digital learning and information gateway.

For more information, please visit www.aeu.edu.my.

Ends/-

For further details please contact:

Norbasheerah Amir Hamzah

Manager, Corporate Relations

Asia e University,

No. 4, Main Block

Jalan Sultan Sulaiman

50000 KUALA LUMPUR.

Tel: +603-2785 0109

Fax: +603-2785 0009

Email: sheera.amir@aeu.edu.my

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

"Although the journey was not an easy one, we finally made it through sheer determination and resilience. Congrats to one and all!"



Mr Suratman Masohan (blue shirt sitting in the centre)

"It is never too old to learn and grow. With the right motivation and hunger to improve oneself, dreams can be fulfilled. I am proud to have made it."



Ms Chee Lai Sim

Satvinder Kaur from the education sector relied on programme mates and relished the experience of being a student all over again, "It was fun going to the university on weekends to do assignments".



Ms. Satvinder Kaur

“I would like to express my very sincere thanks to everyone from AeU who have helped a lot to complete this course.”



Mr Phan Thi Thanh Hien & Ms Phan Cong Tuan

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YBhg. Prof. Dato’ Dr Ansary Ahmed

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Dr. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, President of Siam University



YB Dato' Hj Nooh bin Gadot, Advisor to the Religious Council of Negeri Johor