Wide range of niche offerings at UniRazak

UNIVERSITI Tun Abdul Razak (UniRazak), one of Malaysia’s leading private universities specialising in innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurship, has a wide variety of niche academic offerings in both its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

One example is UniRazak’s MBA in Global Islamic Finance offered by its Graduate School of Business, the first of its kind in Malaysia.

The programme is offered under a partnership consortium known as IBSA (International Business School Alliance) consisting of seven universities, namely, University of Westminster (UK), Hochschule Bremen (Germany), Euromed Marseille (France), Universitat De Valencia (Spain), Academy of National Economy under the Government of Russian Federation (Russia), Cameron School of Business UNCW (USA) and UniRazak.

Students of UniRazak’s MBA (Global Islamic Finance) have the choice of spending one semester in a foreign university, and vice versa. This year four students chose to come to UniRazak instead of one of the other universities.

Interestingly, only one of the four is Muslim, showing that Islamic Finance is becoming more accepted on an international level.

Indonesian Abriansyah Harahap said UniRazak’s Global Islamic Finance programme is especially interesting for him as it is a new field.

Olga Godunova from Belarus chose Malaysia due to her interest in the region. A holder of a Bachelor in Economics, she is very keen to learn more about finance and this region — to see what the working conditions are, how businesses are run and many others.

Roslinda Mat Musa spent her first semester in Valencia, Spain, and joined UniRazak to discover more about Islamic finance. Her bachelor degree is in telecommunications.

Mexican Fabiola Nava Carrera obtained her degree in international trade from Mexico and was in Germany for the first part of her MBA. Her initial reason for coming to UniRazak was to experience Malaysian culture, and she has also developed a passion for Islamic finance.

In today’s globalised village, she believes that knowing new cultures is especially important and helps to facilitate and conduct business.

The part of Global Islamic Finance that interested the students the most is how one can make profit without interest.

The world’s economy and finance has been largely interest-based for the past 300-400 years, and only recently in the past 30-40 years has Islamic finance been used in major financial transactions.

Also even though Islamic finance’s growth and importance has been trending strongly and growing exponentially over the past few years, this is still a relatively young field and there is much room for further growth and places to be improved for corporations and economies to be fully Islamic or syariah-compliant.

With this in mind, the students of UniRazak’s Global Islamic Finance are positioning themselves well in their future career prospects.

It was easy for Olga and Fabiola to adapt to Malaysia, despite them coming from far away countries. Both commented on how easy it is to make friends and how there is no hassle in living here. Fabiola added that Malaysian culture is very similar to Mexican culture, in that both are high context cultures.

All four students said that their experiences in UniRazak had been enjoyable and that with the professors’ friendly assistance and professionalism, it was not difficult to understand Islamic finance.

They said the professors were well educated and had huge industrial experience, knowledge in the subject, and knowledge on how the subject related to others.

They said the professors made the subject challenging and made them hunger for more knowledge.

For more information on Universiti Tun Abdul Razak’s MBA in Global Islamic Finance or other programmes, please visit www.unirazak.edu.my or contact +603 7627 7000 or email marketing@unirazak.edu.my or md@unirazak.edu.my