Hospitality and tourism studies hub

Established on Dec 18, 1997, Universiti Tun Abdul Razak (Unirazak) was one of the first private universities in Malaysia.

Named after Malaysia’s second Prime Minister, the late Tun Abdul Razak, Unirazak is committed to becoming a principal centre of education in innovation, leadership and entrepreneurship.

At both national and international levels, tourism and hospitality have become primary industries that require increasing numbers of knowledgeable and industry-driven staff.

Unirazak’s Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management (FHTM) has become a leading centre for nurturing students to become capable individuals who are ready to contribute to the development of the hospitality industry.

Currently, FHTM offers unique programmes in the undergraduate level specifically focusing on hotel management, tourism management, culinary arts and food service.

FHTM programmes offer an exciting curriculum combined with business fundamentals that give a strong emphasis in the fields of service innovation, service technology and social responsibility.

They also include a credit-bearing industrial training, hence enabling students to gain real life work experience.

Upon graduation, students become exemplary and productive human capital and innovative and dynamic entrepreneurs in this vibrant and demanding industry.

It has always been Unirazak’s belief that every student acquires the skills to lead and manage hospitality services in an ever-expanding knowledge-driven economy.

Students will be equipped with the required knowledge through a challenging coursework that involves industrial-related experiences.

The programmes emphasise problem-based learning, business plan preparation and event management.

It bridges industrial networking to help graduates build a career.

Also, the course prepares students to acquire creative and critical thinking skills in business systems and processes, and strategies found in local or international chain hospitality organisations.

At present, FHTM has more than 30 full-time academic staff active in teaching as well as research and publications.

Comprising project papers and conference presentations, research is conducted and incorporated into the bachelor degrees.

This is where students work together on actual fieldwork supervised by lecturers. These activities have become FHTM’s grand event to end the final semester.

Students look forward to participating in these research works as they gain an edge which is applicable to work after graduation.

More than 30 seminar papers were presented by lecturers and students during tourism conferences and distinguished guests were called to share their experiences.

In the international frontier, conference papers on gastronomy, culinary, cultural and heritage tourism and hospitality were submitted and presented by lecturers.

These papers were presented at the International CRIE Symposium, Euro Cultural Conference and International Joint World Cultural Tourism Conference in the United States, Spain and Thailand respectively.

Last year, Unirazak’s Graduate School launched the Master of Science (Hospitality Management) with specialisations in hotel tourism, restaurant or food service.

Top professionals with a master’s degree will have excellent career prospects at home and in the global marketplace.

■ For more information look out for the Unirazak advertisement in this StarSpecial.
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