Forging stronger ties

UNIVERSITI Tun Abdul Razak (UNIRAZAK), one of Malaysia’s leading boutique universities, welcomed an Iranian delegation at its Razak Campus in Kuala Lumpur on June II. Consisting of Iranian diplomats and over 20 university managers, the delegation came to develop closer ties with UNIRAZAK and explore opportunities for mutual collaboration in education.

Those in attendance included the High Counsellor of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Prof Azizollah Memariani, Global Creative Education and Research, Abdulraza Kordi and Hishammuddin Hashim as well as UNIRAZAK’s university management committee and deans from the various faculties.

In his welcoming address, UNIRAZAK president and vice chancellor Prof Datuk Md Zabid Abdul Rashid shared information on UNIRAZAK’s current programmes and expertise. In turn, Prof Azizollah expressed his hope to have more meetings and collaborations in the future between the two countries.

With 100 plus public universities and medical schools, 200 private universities, and over 3.8 million students, Iran has a strong and vibrant higher education system. The Iranian delegation came to UNIRAZAK hoping to tap its expertise in creative education, and expressed three goals.

Firstly, to be more creative in decision making and strategic planning. Next is to find mechanisms and procedures for more creative teaching. To develop more innovative content and be more creative in finding solutions to real-life problems. These goals were made to develop students to be more creative in their professional and personal problem solving.

As UNIRAZAK’s focus is on innovation, leadership and entrepreneurship, the delegation especially requested to meet with the university management committee and faculty deans as a first step towards realising their goals.

Prof Datuk Zabid proposed the possibility of adding Iran’s national language, Farsi, to the curriculum of UNIRAZAK’s Centre of Languages and General Studies, which already teaches Mandarin, German, French and Arabic, as well as teaching English to Iranian students.

Prof Datuk Zabid also offered to organise a five-day workshop on innovation and creativity in Malaysia for the delegation. Similar workshops have been conducted by UNIRAZAK for other embassies and it also offered working expeditions to Malaysian companies, so the participants can learn more about Malaysian entrepreneurship and corporate practices. This proposal was very well received by the Iranian delegation.

- For more information look out for the UNIRAZAK advertisement in this StarSpecial.