UNIRAZAK’s school of government

THE Razak School of Government (RSOG) is the latest faculty to join Universiti Tun Abdul Razak (UNIRAZAK). Established in 2008, this relative new institution currently offers three programmes:

- Foundation for Humanities & Social Sciences
- Bachelor of Arts (Government & Public Policy)
- Bachelor of Arts (Leadership)

The Bachelor of Economics (Hons) has already received approval from Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) and will be available soon.

This is just the tip of the iceberg as RSOG plans to add not just more programmes, but workshops, seminars, and public discourses as well.

UNIRAZAK dean assoc prof Datuk Mohd Ibrahim Hj Abu Bakar explained what RSOG programmes offer.

“The genesis for RSOG came when we realised that public administration education is not really established in Malaysia, as it is in Western countries,” said the dean.

“Our approach is to go beyond public administration, because the government is more complex than that. It involves many aspects, such as government policy, developing the country’s mechanics of government and political institutions, innovation and planning in the government administration. We need to develop our future government, we need to make it more efficient, more competitive, and produce cheaper products but of the highest quality.”

A traditional government provides amenities such as basic infrastructure, roads, hospitals, police service, etc. A modern government goes beyond this and produces various policies and regulations that are conducive for the nation’s economic and social growth.

It provides the correct environment that promotes and encourages the development of the nation’s strengths, and seeks to minimise the nation’s weaknesses. It helps industries thrive, helps people prosper, and most importantly, does so with the idea of sustainability firmly in mind, that the new policies and regulations must lead to continuous not short-term, growth and prosperity.

RSOG’s programmes will expose its students to the major subjects that are useful for life in a modern government – subjects and courses that help them produce ideas, be innovative, manage crisis, communicate well, plan accordingly, and be adaptable. It will also teach critical thinking, economics, leadership and management.

Ibrahim adds, “We are also confident that we will get support from the government for our students to participate in government seminars and workshops and public administration conferences. We also plan for our students to have briefings with various government ministries and departments in which they can ask questions, obtain more knowledge on how government works and build contacts.

“UNIRAZAK’s RSOG students will be exposed to research areas in the development of government policy, be able to improve parts of the system that are obsolete, and build a government that is connected to the people and the industry. Also, to be a developed nation we must clean up any and all bad practices, corruption, lack of transparency and mismanagement. They will start a new form of innovative leadership, with efficient systems, global systems, that are creative and productive.

“The fact is that the people need a government, and a better government. This requires professionals who understand how the system works, who can then improve it and thereby enhance the economy and society. Our graduates will help promote a sound, ethical government that will build responsible citizenship, and a society and industry that cares about more than just money but also contributes to society and the environment. Our quality of life cannot be measured merely by the amount of money that we have in our bank accounts. We must develop a holistic, sustainable model for the continued growth and prosperity of our country.”
RSOG deputy dean Prof Dr Syed Omar Syed Agil added, "The initial response to our programmes has been excellent, as we have received over 100 applications. Our team has personally called every applicant, and I’ve spoken to over half of them, so that we can better explain our programmes and ensure that this is really what they aspire to do. We are looking to produce the highest quality of graduates. Having said that, all are welcome to apply, as we believe in education for all who wish to study. We will strive to transform you to be the best as a student and become an asset to the public sector after graduation. That is our job."

RSOG graduates have many job prospects, and they are not limited to working with the government. The Bachelor of Arts (Government & Public Policy) (Hons) and Bachelor of Arts (Government & Public Policy) (Hons) are available in three and four year programmes.

For details on RSOG programmes, visit http://rsog.unirazak.edu.my, contact 03 7627 7000 or e-mail marketing@unirazak.edu.my or md@unirazak.edu.my

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