

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Star
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Star
Tarikh: 11/8/2011
Hari: ISNIN M/S: 6
Ruangan: MARITIME

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Boost for UUM graduates

Professional body CILTM recognises varsity's logistics programme

KUALA LUMPUR: A memorandum of agreement (MoA) signed between Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malaysia (CILTM) and Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) recently will act as a springboard for the latter's graduates in logistics studies to enter the industry.

CILTM president Datuk Abdul Radzak Abdul Malek said the MoA allowed for a greater and mutually beneficial cooperation between academia and the industry.

"Areas like exchange of knowledge from the industry to the academic through invited guest lectures by industry professionals can be made possible with this MoA.

"Others like joint research activities that has high application value to the industry, student-led out-of-classroom experiential learning activities and leadership camp for young professionals will add value to this MoA," he said at the agreement signing.

The MoA entailed accreditation by CILTM to the Bachelor of Business Administration in

Logistics and Transport (BBLT) programme currently offered by UUM.

"With this, the degree will not only be recognised globally but also has better marketability," said Abdul Radzak.

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILTM) is the international professional body for all sectors of the transport industry.

Founded in the United Kingdom in 1919 and granted a Royal Charter in 1926, it was formed to promote knowledge of the science and arts of logistics and transport and to provide a source of authoritative views for communication to government, industry and the community.

Abdul Radzak said the MoA was timely as Malaysia was now undertaking a huge step in

the logistics and transport industry.

He said the formation of Land Public Transport Commission, the development of mass rapid transit system in the Klang Valley and the creation of Southern Logistics Hub in Iskandar Malaysia were just a few examples of the Government's seriousness in developing the industry.

He said all these economic and infrastructure development activities spelt the need for qualified logistics and transportation professionals.

"The fact that UUM has its BBLT programme recognised by CILTM as a professional degree is just like a stamp of endorsement that the graduates of this degree from UUM are not only qualified academically but also equipped with skills that the industry needs.

"This endorsement is further amplified

when the graduates are conferred the Member of The CILT (MILT) immediately upon their graduation. This will put them in a better position to compete in the job market," he said.

UUM vice-chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohamed Mustafa Ishak said the university had been offering the BBLT since 1993 and so far, 431 graduates had completed their studies.

"At present, we have about 453 undergraduate students enrolled in the programme of which about 15% are from countries like Nigeria, Chad, Sudan, Somalia, Thailand, China, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia.

"Through this smart collaboration, our graduates are better positioned to face challenging careers as qualified professionals in logistics and transportation either in the Government or private sector," he said.