FOREWORD BY
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Co-Op partners found 86% of the students undergoing this programme were focused on finishing what they have started and 78% demonstrated professional conduct throughout their internship period.

“

YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' PROF. DR. HASSAN BIN SAID

My heartiest congratulations to UCSI for establishing the very successful Co-Operative Programme. After reading the Co-Op Report, I am duly impressed that 87% of the programme’s Co-Operative partners for the Co-Op 2007 programme stated that they would re-hire the same student as their employees. This high percentage speaks volumes of how the programme has grown and evolved to equip students with not just knowledge but essential soft skills to help them to "acclimatize" to the work environment they will enter, later on.

Much has been said about graduate unemployment, and the Higher Education Ministry recognises that the education of graduates with the necessary soft skills and exposure to the working environment, such as that provided by the Co-Op training, prepares them with the right attitude and mind-set for employability. This is evident through the statistics which further demonstrate that the Co-Op partners found 86% of the students undergoing this programme were focused on finishing what they have started and 78% demonstrated professional conduct throughout their internship period. These high percentages bear testimony to the professionalism of the students who have undergone the Co-Operative Training Programme.

The Ninth Malaysia Plan is focused on providing more employment opportunities, and a large portion of the jobs needed to be filled will be in the field of biotechnology. I am highly appreciative of the fact that your first few batches of biotechnology graduates are already employed, out of which a very high percentage are employed by their Co-Op programme employers. The Ministry of Higher Education applauds UCSI’s proactive and persistent pursuit to boost students’ employability opportunities.

To all the ‘employers’ in the Co-Op Programme, I commend your foresight in embarking on this smart partnership and am confident that your partnership with UCSI will indeed make a difference in the continued advancement of our country’s human capital.

Thank you.
Assalamualaikum, wrh. wbh.,

My congratulations to the many students who have completed their Co-Operative (Co-Op) Industrial Placement Training programme and our thanks to the many Co-Op partners who have taken in our students to work in their esteemed organisations to learn as well as hone essential soft skills. UCSI’s Co-Op programme is truly a smart move because it complements and reinforces the 9th Malaysia Plan which emphasises building a knowledge-based economy focussing on human capital develop by 2020.

The Programme, launched in 2004 was conceived to allow students to put into practice their academic knowledge in the workplace. It was designed to enable students to discover the skills required at the workplace and to acquire these essential skills before they leave the university, making them job-ready even before they graduate.

The growing number of partners we have under this programme speaks volumes of the support we receive. This gives me strong confidence that we are all doing something right in working towards the same goal of building a world-class workforce and society.

I hope that with the strong support from all parties, this programme will continue to produce consummate graduates who will be tomorrow’s leaders and visionaries leading the nation forward into a promising future.

Thank you and Wassalamualaikum.
Welcome to the vibrant and exciting UCSI community!

UCSI is an exciting place to be as our programmes here allow students to not just absorb knowledge from lecturers in a classroom environment, but they are also able to gain work exposure even in their First Year at UCSI under our Co-Operative (Co-Op) Industrial Placement/Internship Programme.

Since its inception in 2004, the Co-Op programme has emplaced more than 2,000 students with various employers. The number of Co-Op employers who have allowed our students to intern at their corporation now stand at more than 600 companies/firms.

I would like to thank all the Co-Op employers who have provided opportunities for our students to learn from their esteemed organisations and hope that they will continue to not only provide internship places for our students, but also - having invested time and effort in providing this experience - to hire them after graduation.

My sincerest congratulations to the team co-ordinating this programme. Their efforts have contributed to its growth, not just in the growing number of employees participating, but also in opening opportunities for students to prepare themselves to be best-fit for entry-level jobs in their various fields. The Co-Op has also seen many successes, as some of our international students have been engaged by their Co-Op employers after graduating.

My deepest appreciation also to all who have contributed, are contributing and will be contributing to this Co-Op programme. Your efforts and partnership are invaluable to us and the students. Only in partnership can we affect greater changes.

Thank You.
CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION (CO-OP) PROGRAMME

Mission
To enhance academic study and forge external university partnership by placing UCSI students in curriculum-specific co-operative education internships.

Goals
To ensure that all UCSI students have access to degree-related real-world work experiences before they graduate. These experiences occur off-campus in business, industry, government and non-profit agencies locally, nationally and internationally. The purpose is to provide a means for students to apply course content and gain relevant professional, academic and personal skills needed to become work-ready and contributing citizens upon graduation.

Programme Benefits of the Co-Op Programme to Students
- Provides the opportunity to apply classroom learning to practical applications on the job
- Allows students to work with professionals in the industries they are preparing to enter
- Enhances students’ academic commitment
- Expose students to advanced technology and equipment in a real work environment
- Educate students about the competitive nature of the job market and prepare them for the best career options
- Provides students with the competitive edge and greater employability in the job market

WHAT CAN CO-OP DO FOR STUDENTS?

Co-Operative Education gives students the opportunity to “learn by doing”. Students are able to apply academic skills and develop new proficiencies in a practical work setting while interning with industry leaders.
myCo-Op

UCSI’s Co-Op placements are carried out using our very own “home-grown” web-portal which we call ‘myCo-Op’. This portal was launched in 2005 and is managed by the Co-Operative Education & Career Services (CECS) Department of UCSI. It was designed to enable online selection of UCSI students for internship in organisations.

The ‘myCo-Op’ portal is a Co-Op placement system that acts as a portal for:

**Students**
Students may submit their curriculum vitae (CVs), seek and view job vacancies, accept or reject interviews/jobs, and evaluate employers.

**CECS Co-ordinators**
CECS Co-ordinators manage CV repositories, employer registrations & accounts, job matching & portal management.

**Co-Op Employers**
Co-Op employers can self-register, post jobs, screen CVs, arrange for interviews and issue e-Offer Letters.

**School Co-Op Co-ordinators**
UCSI’s School Co-Op Co-ordinators approve jobs offered to students and monitor the completion of the Co-Op module.

The ‘myCo-Op’ portal also provides various Career Services for UCSI students:
- Sample cover letters & CVs
- Tips on “acing” interviews, grooming and work ethics
- Job vacancy listings for both graduate & internship employment

---

Register as a Co-Op (Internship) Employer

We invite organisations to register as one of our Co-Op employers. To register and begin using ‘myCo-Op’, please follow the simple steps below:

2. Click on EMPLOYER REGISTRATION
3. Complete the registration form and click Submit
4. After you have registered, an email will be sent to you with your company’s user name and password
HIGHLIGHTS OF CO-OP PROGRAMME IN 2007

LIFE SCIENCES CAREER WEEK
UCSI Life Sciences Career Week, a 3-day event, was jointly organised by CECS and the School of Applied Sciences Student Association (SASSA). Guest speakers from the applied sciences industry were invited for a series of career talks. Some of the companies which participated included:

- Institute for Medical Research (IMR)
- KFC Holdings (Malaysia) Berhad
- RamRais & Partners
- Vivantis Technologies Sdn Bhd
- Yakult (M) Sdn Bhd

UCSI CAREER FAIR 2007
Another Career Fair co-jointly organised by CECS and Capital Networth Resources Sdn. Bhd. featured a series of career talks and career information booths at UCSI’s lobby featuring over 20 participating companies. Some of the companies included:

- Resort World Berhad.
- EON Bank Berhad.
- OMRON Malaysia Sdn Bhd.
- Marcus Evans

CO-OP PREPARATION FOR WORKFORCE WORKSHOP, 2007
These series of workshops were organised to familiarise students with policies and procedures operating in organizations, as well as to prepare them for the workforce.

- New Co-Op Policies & Procedures (22 May 2007)
- Introduction to Co-Op 1, Seminar (29 May 2007)
- “Others may follow but I’m carving my own path” (5 June 2007) – Seed Communication Sdn. Bhd.
- “Are you ready to get hired?” (12 June 2007) – JobStreet.com
HIGHLIGHTS OF CO-OP PROGRAMME IN 2007

CAREER TALKS IN UCSI 2007
Career talks in UCSI are organised all year round with the aim of exposing students to career opportunities and self development in the industry related to their studies.

- “Being the First Interactive Magazine in Malaysia”
- Career Enrichment Programme
- “How to Turn Your Fear of Rejection or Failure into Results.”
  (5 July 2007) – DLR Training and Consultancy
- Career Talk by ING Malaysia (12 July 2007) – ING Malaysia
- “Opportunities, Challenges and Differences in the OTC, MLM and Direct Sales Channels. Which is the Right Career for You?”
  (11 September 2007) - Vita Life Sciences

RECRUITMENT DRIVE 2007
Recruitment drives play an important part in opening up career opportunities for students to be recruited on-campus by the industry player.

- Etihad Airways (9 May 2007)

LAUNCHING OF myProfile AND eAlumni-CUM-CO-OP EMPLOYER APPRECIATION HI-TEA
The former Deputy Higher Education Minister YB Datuk Ong Tee Keat launched the web portal of myProfile and eAlumni of UCSI during the Co-Op Employer Appreciation Hi-Tea. Datuk Ong Tee Keat also gave away tokens of appreciation to all UCSI Co-Op employers present at this event.
LIFE SCIENCES CAREER WEEK A HIT AMONG STUDENTS

KUALA LUMPUR 27 March 2009—RamRaj & Partners, a premier law firm in Malaysia, in collaboration with the School of Applied Sciences (SAS) and the Department of Management and Entrepreneurship at UCSI University, has successfully organized the Life Sciences Career Week, aimed at creating awareness towards the importance of life sciences in the corporate world.

According to Dr. Chan Yoon Seow, Chief Academic Officer at UCSI University, “The aim of this initiative is to inform students on the various career options available in the life sciences field and to encourage them to pursue relevant degrees at the university.”

The event was attended by representatives from several leading companies in the life sciences industry including RamRaj & Partners, MBI, Pfizer, Merck, Sanofi-Aventis, and Roche. Students had the opportunity to interact with these companies and learn about the various career prospects available in the field.

One of the participants, a final year student at UCSI University, said, “I am very impressed with the presentations and the networking opportunities. It has given me a good understanding of the industry and helped me make informed decisions about my future career.”

The event was well-received by the students and there were enthusiastic discussions on various topics such as research opportunities, job prospects, and career development. The networking sessions proved to be particularly beneficial, allowing students to connect with professionals in the industry.

The success of the event highlights the importance of bridging the gap between academia and industry to provide students with a clear understanding of the various career options available in the life sciences field. This initiative is expected to inspire more students to pursue relevant degrees and careers in the life sciences industry.