

# THE 28th MALAYSIAN EDUCATION FAIR

## A soaring PASS-ing rate at UCSI

UCSI University has launched its "ASK Campaign" to boost awareness about the requirements of a good education programme.

According to Lim Boon Wah, head of local marketing, the campaign was part of the university's efforts to help students make informed decisions when they selected courses or programmes they wished to pursue.

One programme which teaches technical skills as well as soft skills is the Peer Assisted Study Session (PASS), led by UCSI University's Centre for Learning Excellence.

The PASS programme provides students an avenue to work together to better understand a subject, reinforce concepts and develop study strategies.

The programme targets subjects with a high failure rate and withdrawals or subjects which are perceived by students as difficult. It provides out-of-class,



UCSI uses the Blue Ocean Strategy.

peer-facilitated sessions which are open to students who take the subject, and are attended on a voluntary basis.

Every semester, student leaders for the programme are trained by PASS supervisors before the sessions begin. Students who have gone through these sessions develop critical-thinking and evaluation skills as well as problem-solving skills.

They also develop an understanding of group dynamics, probing skills, and presentation and communication skills.

PASS at UCSI University is recognised internationally. It is adopted from the PASS University of Wollongong (Australia) model, the national centre for PASS in Australia.

UCSI University's PASS programme has been proven to not only increase the

number of students who pass a subject, but also increase the quality of the passing grades.

For instance, one-third of the students who obtained A pluses and one-third of those who passed in Calculus and Analytical Geometry class were PASS students. In Media Law and Ethics class, 50 per cent of students who passed the subject were PASS students.

Also, the university set up the Co-Operative Industrial Placement programme (Co-Op) to boost the employability of its students.

It is a compulsory module comprising two months of work experience every year from Year One to their final year. It has 745 industry partners.

The PASS programme, the Co-Op programme and graduate attributes are examples of the Blue Ocean Strategy programmes the university has established.

For details, talk to counselors wearing the ASK Tag.

