

The Malaysian Association of Private Colleges & Universities

IN October 1996, representatives from 17 private colleges congregated to discuss the setting up of The Malaysian Association of Private Colleges (MAPCO). Its why and wherefore was to represent the interest of those who had heavily invested in the private higher education sector, at the same time, work with and assist the government in developing and growing the quality of private higher education in the country.

A pro tem committee was formed, a constitution was drafted and approved, and an application was sent to the Registrar of Societies. MAPCO was registered in March 1997.

In 2002, the association received the green light to change its name to MAPCU - The Malaysian Association of Private Colleges & Universities. The change worked in line with the government's decision to allow the establishment of foreign university branch campuses in Malaysia, subsequently upgrading its private colleges to university colleges and universities. Education options improved and expanded, and local and foreign students were offered tertiary recognition via bachelors degrees, masters degrees, PhDs and other professional qualifications according to programme structure and arrangements such as:

- ▶ Local & foreign foundation, diploma, bachelors & masters degrees
- ▶ Twinning programmes with local and foreign universities
- ▶ Franchise programmes with local and foreign universities
- ▶ Articulation, dual, joint degrees
- ▶ Credit transfer courses
- ▶ Local & international professional courses

MAPCU today comprises a group of prestigious private colleges and universities that

embody major and well-established private higher education institutions approved and licensed by the Ministry of Higher Education. All members offer post secondary and/or tertiary level courses independently and/or in collaboration with established local and foreign institutions of higher learning.

MAPCU has 49 ordinary members, 12 associate members and four branch members comprising private colleges and institutes from all over the country. All MAPCU members have a common goal, which is to promote Malaysia as a regional centre for excellence in education. Its members comprise:

- ▶ **a) Private universities & university colleges**
 - Award their own degrees and other qualifications
 - Undertake research, development & commercialisation
 - Offer specialised areas of study for e.g. technology, business, etc.
- ▶ **b) Private colleges**
 - Long tradition (since the 1950s) of offering a range of study options from universities in the UK, Australia, the US, New Zealand, Canada
 - Renowned for introducing twinning and transfer degree programmes
- ▶ **c) Foreign branch campus universities**
 - Award their own degrees that are identical to that of the host university

[For a complete list of its members, visit the MAPCU official website.]

To encourage a healthy lifestyle and produce all-round graduates that are well formed and balanced in personal development, MAPCU Community Service Committee brings member institutions together to champion various social issues for the good of the community. MAPCU Organ

Donation 2012 was also established to increase awareness on the importance of organ donation, organ transplant, as well as to encourage students and their families to become organ donors. MAPCU students and member institutions are also encouraged to engage in the annual MAPCU Sports Carnival which features a wide selection of sporting activities.

MAPCU champions corporate social responsibility endeavours. It also provides scholarships for deserving students from financial difficult backgrounds through theSun-MAPCU Higher Education Scholarship Fund.

Eligibility criteria for theSun-MAPCU Higher Education Scholarship Fund:

- a. Applicants must be Malaysian citizens.
- b. Applicants must possess good academic results in SPM / 'O' Level, UEC and / or STPM / 'A' Level examinations or equivalent.
- c. Applicants must qualify to gain admission to the participating higher education institution for the relevant course applied for.
- d. Applicants must be active in sports and / or co-curricular activities.
- e. Applicants must possess leadership qualities and be self-motivated.
- f. Applicants must be financially deserving.
- g. Applicants must not already be in receipt of any scholarships, financial aid or award from other higher education institutions or organisations.
- h. Applicants must abide by the terms and conditions of theSun-MAPCU Higher Education Scholarship Fund.
- i. Applicants must abide by other terms and conditions of the awarding higher education institution, including any bond requirement.

For more, log on to MAPCU official website.

ELECTED MAPCU GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS (2013-2015)

President

Datuk Dr Parmjit Singh –
Asia Pacific University of
Technology & Innovation

Deputy President

Dr Mei Ling Young –
International Medical
University

Vice President 1

Phang Koon Tuck –
Monash University Malaysia

Vice President 2

Shanker Sathivellu –
UCSI University

Secretary General

Gan Eng Hong –
Nilai University

Deputy Secretary General

Pradeep Kumar Nair –
Taylor's University

Treasurer

Dr Khong Yoon Loong –
KDU University College

Members of the Council

Datuk Teo Chiang Liang –
KBU International College

Dr Lee Fah Onn –
INTI International University
U.K Menon

MAPCU OBJECTIVES

- Promoting and co-ordinating the development of Malaysia's private higher education industry.
- Enhancing the quality and delivery of courses and programmes conducted by its members.
- Identifying and studying problems arising in the industry and implementing solutions in cooperation with relevant government agencies and professional bodies.
- Protecting and representing the legitimate interests of members in matters of legislation, policies and procedures.
- Seeking representation on national-level committees, councils, working groups and boards set up by the government or related organisations concerning the education sector.
- Encouraging and promoting the practice or professionalism and ethics among members.
- Affiliating itself with international associations and bodies involved in both public and private higher education.

MAPCU CODE OF ETHICS

- To ensure the disclosure of full, fair and accurate information regarding programmes offered through responsible advertising and counselling.
- To ensure that admission standards are maintained within a framework of well-defined policies and procedures.
- To only engage in fair and ethical recruitment and promotional practices.
- To ensure that qualified and competent staff are engaged to provide the academic and administrative support required for the programmes offered.
- To ensure on-going high academic standards through the implementation of quality assurance mechanisms.
- To provide appropriate physical resources, materials and facilities in the delivery of programmes.
- To provide support services, premises and facilities that will safeguard the safety, security and well-being of students.
- To ensure provision of the necessary contact hours required for respective programmes and the provision of pastoral care.
- To ensure that all courses conducted have received all the necessary approvals from the appropriate authorities.
- To develop all-round personality of students to prepare them for future leadership roles and service to the nation.

