

UCSI, nation's top private varsity

UCSI ranked 481 in top 500 of QS World University Rankings

By KAREN CHAPMAN
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: UCSI University can now call itself Malaysia's top private university as it has beaten its peers by breaching the top 500 of the 2019 QS World University Rankings.

It is ranked 481, placing it in the top 2% of all universities in the world.

This is the first time UCSI is featured in the QS World University Rankings.

UCSI University vice-chancellor and president Senior Prof Datuk Dr Khalid Yusoff said the latest milestone caps a memorable year for UCSI.

"This is a culmination of our university-wide push for excellence and performance with specific strategies.

"It shows we are moving in the right direction.

"We are building the strengths of the university. Quality education is our priority and we want to be a standard bearer of thought leadership," he said.

QS research director Ben Sowter said UCSI University is a private and ambitious institution, which enjoys a good reputation among local and regional recruiters.

"It also boasts a good rank for faculty/student ratio and it is among the top 200 for proportion of international students," he said.

UCSI seems a university with the potential to grow and certainly one to watch, Sowter added.

The other private institutions in the rankings are Taylor's University at 601-650, Universiti Tenaga Nasional (701-750) and Multimedia University (801-1000).

QS World University Rankings 2019

2019	2018	Institution
87*	114*	Universiti Malaya (UM)
184*	230*	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
202	229	Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)
207	264*	Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
228	253	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)
481*		UCSI University
521-530	601-650	Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP)
601-650		Taylor's University
601-650	701-750	Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM)
651-700	701-750	International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)
701-750		Universiti Tenaga Nasional (Uniten)
751-800	751-800	Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM)
801-1000		Multimedia University (MMU)

Note: * means shares the same ranking

Source: QS Quacquarelli Symonds 2004-2019 <https://www.topuniversities.com/>



Taylor's University vice-chancellor and president Prof Michael Driscoll said being listed in the world university rankings is their biggest achievement yet.

"This success, which is built on hard work and dedication of all our staff, will continue to be an inspiration to move on to bigger and better things.

"Our aim is to be one of Asia's top universities by 2022," he said.

Universiti Malaya (UM) has made it to the top 100, and is ranked in joint 87th place with Rice University in the United States.

UM moved up 27 places from 114th last year and has achieved its highest rank since the inception of the rankings in 2004.

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia joins the world's Top 200 in 184th place while Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) is ranked 202nd

and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) is at 207th.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia is ranked 228th while Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Universiti Utara Malaysia, International Islamic University Malaysia and Universiti Teknologi Mara are also included in the rankings (see table for details).

Congratulating UM and the other universities in the rankings, Higher Education director-general Datin Dr Siti Hamisah Tapsir said this was consistent with UM's recent achievement when it was listed in the Top 10 Best Global Universities for Engineering by US News and World Report in 2017.

"This achievement reflects the culture of academic excellence in research, as well as teaching and learning," she said.

Sowter said Malaysia was among

the most improved countries in this edition of the rankings.

The QS World University Rankings is an annual table of the top universities in the world. This year, 1,233 institutions from 85 countries were considered, with 1,011 institutions ranked and 1,000 published.

It is based on four key pillars, namely research, teaching, employability and internationalisation.

UPM vice-chancellor Prof Datin Paduka Dr Aini Ideris said the university has constantly improved since 2013.

USM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Asma Ismail recognises the fact that their staff play a pivotal role in the betterment of the university.

For more information, visit <https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2019>