EXPLORER
covering events & happenings between Oct-Dec 2012

- Pomp & pageantry of the 1World Culture festival returns
- Diploma in Agricultural Management programme launched
- Nilai U signs MoUs with MFEBA & MAICSA

www.nilai.edu.my
There are tough economic times and the job market is getting increasingly more competitive. We have always maintained that our main task is to produce well-rounded graduates who are academically proficient and socially confident. All degree students of Nilai University (Nilai U) are required to take a number of compulsory courses which are designed to broaden their horizons and build them into confident, socially adaptable young adults. These courses range from studies on Ethics and Social Responsibility to the culturally enriching Theatre and Acting module.

Nilai U has long believed in the importance of professional certification from relevant industry partners as a means of giving graduates an added dimension to their marketability. By having them undergo training with professional organisations, future employers are assured that our graduates have been educated in all the key areas of their chosen industry. There can be few better endorsements than having a certificate of proficiency from an organisation that represents a particular industry. It is very possible that the future employer is a member of the professional organisation that issued the certification. Such certifications declare that the graduate is up-to-date, and have gained valuable hands-on experience from experts in the industry.

One of the latest organisations Nilai U has tied up with is the Malaysian Food and Beverage Association (MFBEA). This organisation comprises hoteliers, restaurateurs and professional caterers who know precisely what makes the hospitality industry tick and what skills graduates must possess to flourish. In signing an MoU with MFBEA, they will hold regular training sessions with our students and also advise on the latest industry trends to ensure our curriculum remains current. MFBEA along with a sponsor will also be setting up a barista laboratory on campus to ensure our students receive plenty of exposure on how to make the perfect cup of coffee.

Other Industry partners that provide our students enhanced certification include Gribbles Pathology who provides our Medical Laboratory Technology students with valuable hands-on experience. Our School of Business students have the opportunity to take the SAP Enterprise Resource Planning course and learn about its related software. These are skills which are much valued in today’s corporate environment. You can also read in this issue the MoU Nilai U has signed with the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (MAICSA) which gives them an added career option.

You can be assured that everyone at Nilai U is working hard to bring on board the relevant professional organisations for all our programmes. We never stop working in trying to provide the best for our students. This is in line with our philosophy of providing students with a holistic education. Our graduates are not just book smart; they are technically savvy, and have a firm grasp of the latest industry practices making them highly sought after assets in the job market.

Prof Emeritus Tengku Dato’ Shamsul Bahrain
PRESIDENT

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Editor’s Voice
The arrival of a new piece of equipment to a faculty is usually not a big deal, unless it happens to be a new airplane. Students and staff braved the stormy weather to see the latest aircraft being unloaded into our campus hangar. This is the second aircraft in the hangar and will help students in the Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programmes gain better hands on knowledge. The arrival of this modern aircraft reflects Nilai University’s continued commitment to providing students the best learning facilities possible.

In this issue, you will also notice that Nilai University (Nilai U) has signed a number of MoUs with various professional bodies. This is further testament to the university’s efforts to equip our students with the relevant knowledge and qualifications to give them an added competitive edge in the job market.

Turn the pages, read more about the latest developments and come join us at Nilai U, if you haven’t already done so.

Hasta la victoria, siempre!

R Bala
Editor

FIELDS OF STUDY @ NILAI U
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EXPLORER – Editorial Board
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The Diploma in Agricultural Management is the first new programme launched by Nilai University (Nilai U) since the institution gained its full university status. The programme was jointly developed with its stakeholder Federal Land Development Authority (Felda). At the recent launch at Nilai U’s on-campus fine dining restaurant, Flamme - were 30 Felda scholars who will form the programme’s pioneer batch as well as relevant Felda members. The latter will form part of an Industry Advisory Panel which will ensure the programme is up-to-date with current industry practices.

The Diploma in Agricultural Management focuses on the study and application of economics and management principles that are used in production, transformation and marketing of food and agricultural products that have economic, aesthetic, social and cultural value.

Agricultural Management draws knowledge and skills from a wide range of disciplines such as soil, crop and animal sciences, accounting, economics and management sciences, humanities and social sciences, engineering, and information and communication technology.

Nilai U’s Diploma in Agricultural Management is designed to produce specialised human resource capable of managing plantations. The focus is on the development of knowledge, skills and values, social and environmental in order for the learner to run an agribusiness enterprise on a financially and ecologically sustainable basis. Special emphasis is placed on the development of interpersonal skills and empathy critical for the management of staff and the enhancement of the welfare of the plantation community.

Apart from the core subjects, students are also given the opportunity to develop language and communication skills and get involved in co-curricular activities within a multicultural and ethnically diverse, local and international student population.

"Some time back the Minister of Higher Education had commented that the private education sector does not offer programmes related to agriculture. In fact, we had been working on this programme for some time which will include a one-year stint with Felda," says Prof Emeritus Tengku Dato’ Shamsul Bahrin, Nilai U President. "It is hoped the one year training in one of Felda’s many plantations will give students a better perspective of their tasks."

The programme was officially launched by Hanapi Suhada (Felda Land Director), who was representing Faizoul Ahmad (Felda Director General), at an event. He urged the students to "do their best for Felda" and reminded them that they were in line for a promotion to a higher grade upon graduation. All of the 30 students are currently employed by Felda and have been chosen to attend this diploma programme with a view to enhancing specialist knowledge in the area as well as broadening their horizons through higher education.

Tengku Shamsul was keen to emphasise that the students should make full use of the opportunities available on campus. That includes taking active part in the extra-curricular activities as well as in the many character-building events such as the 1 World Culture festival and the Future Leaders Camp which are organised and hosted by Nilai U. “By coming here, you are exposed to people from all walks of life. Make sure you mix around and learn more from your fellow students. One of the reasons Felda sends its scholars to Nilai U is because of its cosmopolitan student population,” explains Tengku Shamsul.

Hanapi agrees and says, “We truly appreciate the diversity of the campus population and believe that exposure to such a student body can only be beneficial to our students. They are no longer working in a rural area cut off from the rest of civilisation. They will be working in large plantations or in one of our multinational companies and will come in contact with people from all walks of life. Some may even find themselves in one of our plantations overseas.”

Minimum entry requirement into this programme is SPm with three credits (including Science or Mathematics), or one principal in SPm, or SB in UEC (including Science or Mathematics). Students enrolling in the Diploma in Agricultural Management will also benefit from extra modules on English to prepare them for an English medium tertiary programme.

Nilai U was established in 1997 and Felda has been a 10% stakeholder since its inception. Felda has been sending large number of its scholars to the Diploma in Nursing programme.

Felda representatives will be part of an Industry Advisory Panel which will ensure the Diploma in Agricultural Management stay abreast of latest industry practices.

(L-R): Andrew Ting (Nilai U Vice President), Tormodi Zainudin (Felda (retired) & Industry Advisory Panel member), Mohd Nor Khailany (Timbalan Pengarah Besar (Perladangan & Perkebunan) & Industry Advisory Panel member), Professor Emeritus Tengku Dato’ Shamsul Bahrin (Nilai U President), Hanapi Suhada (Felda Land Director), Tuan Syed Sofi Syed Omar (Felda (retired) & Industry Advisory Panel member), Professor Dato’ Dr Sohi Raghagan (Nilai U Vice President) and Professor Dr Lee Boon Thong (Nilai U Director).
Setting A Higher Standard

Nilai U signs MoU with Malaysian Food and Beverage Executives Association to raise standard of professionalism among hospitality and tourism graduates.

“This MoU will bring about greater co-operation between academia and industry professionals. It will allow Nilai University and MFBEA to work together to create better graduates who are exposed to current industry trends and practices,” explains Hisham Tan, President of the Malaysian Food and Beverage Executives Association (MFBEA). He was speaking at a ceremony in which Nilai University (Nilai U) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with MFBEA which will bring about a number of benefits to students in Nilai U’s School of Hospitality and Tourism.

According to Hisham, the first major benefit would be the opening of avenues for Nilai U students to do their internship with MFBEA’s foreign counterparts in Germany, Singapore and Cambodia. “At the moment, students will usually do their mandatory six-month internship locally. But we are working with our international counterparts to offer internship opportunities abroad to expose students to unique and different scenarios to gain valuable experience,” he explains. “We are trying to get placements in places such as vineyards where students will get to learn the entire process of planting, cultivation and harvesting of grapes for wine making. These are experiences they cannot get here.”

Another interesting development is that MFBEA along with sponsor Eccoato will be setting up a Barista Laboratory on Nilai U’s campus. This will complement the existing facilities at the School of Hospitality and Tourism which include a formal dining restaurant, a demo kitchen, pastry room, and butchery. “Today’s coffee drinkers are very sophisticated. They are exposed to various international chains and they are aware of the different types of coffee. Having knowledge on how to make different types of coffee-based drinks and how to use the coffee machines is an essential skill in today’s F&B market,” chimies in R Sarthi Nath, MFBEA Vice President for Education. “We want to train students to become baristas who understand the entire process of making coffee, from the roasting of beans to the ideal temperature of the water.” He goes on to say that any hotel or restaurant worth its salt will have a coffee machine and a menu featuring an array of coffee-based drinks, thus making barista skills indispensable.

Both Sarthi Nath and Hisham are keen to emphasise the MoU is to help students stay in touch with current industry practices and customer preferences. For instance, they say that most customers today, even when dining in a posh eatery, will want to be served quickly. “Gone are the days when people go to a restaurant and spend the entire evening there. Most diners now want to be served within an hour, as they have plans for the evening,” says Hisham. He also gave a few examples of how students will be taught on various serving styles which are more efficient. “Once upon a time, the rule was to always serve the ladies first. But these days, when you have a large group, the trend is to serve one lady first and move clockwise from there,” Such updates about industry practices will be transmitted to Nilai U students via workshops, seminars and talks by MFBEA. Hisham says MFBEA members will also constantly drop by the practical sessions to observe the students and advise them accordingly. “But we want to stress that MFBEA are not here to change the curriculum, merely to make students aware of the current industry practices and expectations.”

Other developments in the pipeline also include awarding certificate of proficiency to Nilai U students. This will be awarded to students who meet a certain standard by MFBEA which means it will carry recognition in the hospitality and tourism industry. “Since this MoU is exclusive with Nilai U, these students will be the only ones to have this certificate which will give them an added advantage in the employment market. Employers will know that students have been briefed and trained to meet industry standards,” says Sarthi Nath. There are also plans to train Nilai U students for regional competitions where they will represent the country as well as their alma mater.

So why Nilai U? Hisham says that the decision was based on the genuine desire to share the benefits of MFBEA know-how and networking opportunities with an institution that has sincere aspirations to improve the quality of its students. “We are not doing this for the glamour or the publicity, MFBEA wants to provide Nilai U students a platform from which they can go on to carve an exciting and rewarding career in the field of hospitality and tourism,” he concludes. “I believe Nilai U is the ideal choice for this partnership.”

Set up in 1988, The Malaysian Food & Beverage Executives Association (MFBEA) represents the interest of F&B professionals in the Malaysian hospitality field. Its prime objective is to upgrade the standards and raise the image of the industry and its professionals. The association’s programmes include charity events, seminars, mocktail competitions, etiquette workshops, education trips and F&B tests which are organised annually. Nilai U School of Hospitality and Tourism was set up in 2004 and offers diploma programmes in culinary arts, tourism management and hotel management as well as a BA (Hons) in Business and Hospitality Management.
New Plane for Nilai U
Nilai U’s Aircraft Maintenance Engineering students benefit from having second aircraft added to its hangar.

Nilai University (Nilai U) recently added a new aircraft to its on-campus hangar. The Beechjet 400A is one of the most popular jet aircrafts in the private charter sector and is also one of the fastest in its class. The aircraft manufactured in year 2000, was purchased to allow students in Nilai U’s Aircraft Maintenance Engineering department to gain more hands-on experience on newer aircraft featuring the latest technology.

“Nilai University has one of the best facilities in the field of aircraft maintenance engineering. The latest addition of the Beechjet 400A will allow students to learn about some of the latest technology available on the plane. The 400A employs the Collins Pro Line 4 avionics system which includes the FCS-850 digital flight control system, FMS-850 flight management system, Electronic Flight Instrument System (EFIS) and MFD-871 Multifunction Display. There are hydraulic flight control systems and emergency pneumatic braking system, among many others which are not available on our other aircraft,” says Virender Singh Dahiya, Head of Nilai U’s Aircraft Maintenance Engineering department.

He goes on to say that Nilai U’s Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programmes will benefit from this new aircraft with a wide selection of aircraft systems, equipment and parts that students can see and more importantly handle (assemble/disassemble) to hone their skills. “I think they will learn a great deal from working on a plane with a glass cockpit and state-of-the-art avionics system,” he underlines. The Beechjet 400A will take its place in the hangar next to the King Beech turbine engine aircraft which was requisitioned three years ago. The hangar itself features lecture rooms, workshops and audio-visual rooms to help prepare students for life in this high-tech industry.

Nilai U’s Diploma in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programme was launched in 2008 and is one of the most popular programmes among school leavers. Virender says that this is in no small part due to the fact that the programme prepares students for the all-important European Aviation Safety Agency B1-1 licence. The two-and-a-half year programme is the gateway towards becoming a fully licensed aircraft maintenance engineer and also incorporates a six-month On-The-Job Training programme in its duration. Students are sent to industry partners such as Sepang Aircraft Engineering, Berjaya Air, Air Asia, Air Asia X, KLM, MAS Wings and others to get the necessary field experience before graduating.

As the number of students increases and the competition for jobs intensifies, students and their parents have been requesting for a pathway towards higher qualifications. The Advanced Diploma in Aircraft Engineering was introduced earlier this year and this one year top-up programme allows students a chance to earn a degree from Kingston University, UK. The British university recognises that a student who has completed the Diploma in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and the Advanced Diploma in Aircraft Engineering programmes as equivalent to having completed their degree programme and will award an internationally-recognised degree to successful candidates.

Virender is also keen to stress that students who join the Aircraft Maintenance Engineering programmes will enjoy life in a full university campus with students from all over the world pursuing their studies in various fields. “We are not a small operation focussing on a niche area. School leavers will be getting the full university experience on our 105-acre campus and will be part of one of the largest faculties on campus,” he states.

“The outlook of the aviation industry in Malaysia and the region is looking very healthy as airlines increase their fleets and more airports are built. Our comprehensive curriculum prepares students for EASA certification as well as a chance to earn a UK degree. Couple this with the facilities available on campus, students will be getting a quality education which prepares them for an exciting career in a challenging and highly-numerated industry,” underlines Virender.
Championing The Spirit Of Togetherness

Nilai University co-hosted the fourth edition of the 1World Culture event which saw students from 20 institutions of higher education take part in the vocal and dance competition.

“The 1World Culture celebrates the plurality of cultures. The world is full of different and rich cultures that must be preserved and this event is designed to promote such ideas,” says Prof Emeritus Tengku Dato’ Shamsul Bahrin, Nilai University (Nilai U) President, during the closing ceremony of the 1World Culture event. The fourth edition of this international song and dance competition was hosted by Nilai U in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education, Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kemajuan Negara (Kementerian Penerangan, Komunikasi dan Kebudayaan Malaysia) and Universiti Putra Malaysia.

“We constantly talk about unity and cultural understanding here in Malaysia but it is usually confined to a local context. We thought it was time we did something that promoted a wider worldview involving the large international student population within the country,” explains Tengku Shamsul on the original idea behind the event. He applauded all the participants who have been making this annual event a successful jamboree of brightly coloured costumes and exotic cultural dances.

The international students in turn displayed how well-assimilated they are into their new surroundings by belting out Malay songs for the vocal competitions, which were divided into male and female categories, with a special ‘Nusantara’ grouping for students from Brunei, Indonesia and Singapore. Teams from 20 institutions of higher education from as far as Perlis, Sabah and Sarawak made the trip for the event and all were tingling with barely-contained excitement during the closing ceremony at Nilai U’s President Hall where the winners were announced.

Tebogo Amogelang Mokone from Botswana had vowed audiences and judges alike with her powerful soul diva vocals and her rendition of Jacqueline Victor’s ‘Germilang’ had the crowd on their feet. It was no surprise that the student from Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation bagged the top spot in both Best Vocal and International Female Vocal categories. Help University monopolised the Nusantara segment by winning both male and female categories.

Jansen Karim (Indonesia) came out tops in the male category with his rendition of Abidah Nor’s ‘Terlalu Islimewa’ while his compatriot Faby Tidayah won the female category with Sheila Majid’s ‘Ku Mahon’. The Best Performance awards went to Multimedia University student Harri Qurato Hanna from Indonesia for the Nusantara category while Universiti Malaysia Sarawak’s Godwill Esechie (Nigeria) won in the international category.

The top spot for the dance category was won by Universiti Malaya Perlis. Their performance showcased an Uzbekistani traditional dance called ‘Yaquya’ which combined various elements from a royal court dance known as ‘Terinal’ from the performers’ adopted home state of Perlis. With music featuring serunai, double gong and gendang, the local aspect of their performance tells the ritual of marriage and courtship through a series of intricate hand movements. Their elaborate costumes were among the best during the event as underlined by the number of pictures the dancers were asked to pose in. This was not their only triumph as their peer, Shehabaddin Jalal Hael, from Yemen, successfully defended the Best International Male Vocal Category trophy he won last year.

Tengku Shamsul hoped that the spirit of friendship and goodwill that was apparent in all four of the 1World Culture events has provided students with the opportunity to build lifelong networks. ‘Nilai University’s ‘Enrichment for Life’ philosophy encompasses many values, This includes producing students who can accept, live and work together with people from all walks of life,’ he concludes.
Universiti Malaysia Perlis bagged the top prize in the Dance category.

The prize for best choreography went to Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Nilai U students and staff who worked diligently for several weeks to make the event a success celebrate on a job well done.

The united colours of 1World Culture!
Administrative Power

Nilai University signs MoU with MAICSA to offer students a career pathway to become Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

"A Chartered Secretary is a highly trained and competent corporate professional with a diverse set of skills uniquely crafted to work with a company’s Board of Directors and the management team of a company. They specialise in corporate law and practices, corporate finance, corporate governance and corporate secretarial practice," explains Peter Lim Thiam Kee, FCIS, President of the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (MAICSA). He pointed out that many people misconceive company secretaries as personal assistants or private secretaries.

He highlighted that as of December 2011, there were 972,500 companies being incorporated with the Suruhanjaya Syarikat Malaysia and only 4,000 Chartered Secretaries providing the professional secretarial services in Malaysia. It is a mandatory requirement for all companies to have a company secretary under the existing provision of the Companies Act, 1965. “The registration of a company can only be done by a professionally qualified person and members of MAICSA fall within that category. Thus, the profession is in very high demand,” said Peter Lim.

He was speaking after signing an MoU with Nilai University (Nilai U). The MoU is the latest in a series of moves designed to give Nilai U students a cutting edge in the job market by providing students with professional certification. In this tie-up with MAICSA, students from Nilai U’s Diploma in Business Administration will be entitled to an exemption of 6 papers for MAICSA’s Professional Diploma in Corporate Administration (PDCA) programme. Students who wish to obtain the PDCA will only need to complete two more papers i.e. ‘Corporate Compliance and Practice’ and ‘Law and Practice of Meetings’ during the fourth semester of their Diploma in Business Administration programme.

In the pipeline and awaiting approval from the management of the respective organisations, Nilai U will apply to MAICSA for further exemptions to enable Nilai U’s Accounting and Finance and business-related degree students to sit for MAICSA’s International Qualifying Scheme Examination programme. Related degree holders (i.e. Accounting, business, law and finance) can expect further exemptions from ICSA’s International Qualifying Scheme (IQS) Professional Part 1 programme and will be required to complete IQS Professional Part II programme to be eligible for full membership of ICSA. (Further information of the programme can be obtained from www.maicsa.org.my)

“The main benefit of gaining the prestigious Chartered Secretary qualification is that MAICSA is the premier professional secretarial body recognised by the Government, and its members are qualified to become Company Secretaries, a position defined and required by legislation,” explains Peter Lim, citing Section 139A of the Companies Act 1965. “Company secretaries are crucial to the running of any organisation and their expertise in areas such as law and practice of meetings, corporate governance, corporate administration, compliance requirements pursuant to the Companies Act 1965 and entrepreneurship would enable them to provide competent corporate secretarial services and sound corporate advice to the Board of Directors,” he adds.

ACIS qualification is recognised by the Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (JPA) as equivalent to an Honours degree from local universities whilst the Graduate ICSA is recognised as equivalent to a General Degree. Upon completion of the ICSA programme, students will be awarded Graduate ICSA. Graduate ICSA holders with a minimum of three years of relevant working experience will be eligible for advancement to Associates category and use the designation ACIS. Fellowship is the senior grade of membership. Associates are eligible to apply for advancement to Fellowship and use the designation FCIS. They must have at least eight years of relevant working experience, out of which three years must be at senior management level.

Having the FCIS and ACIS membership is an indication to prospective employers that a person has passed all the relevant examinations and has sufficient working experience to be part of any local and international organisations. MAICSA was founded in 1959 and is a Division of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, United Kingdom (UK). The UK body was formed in 1891 and has 36,000 members and 22,000 registered students worldwide. Only MAICSA members can describe themselves as Chartered Secretaries. “MAICSA is the premier professional body for corporate secretaries in Malaysia. Approximately 60% of public listed companies chose MAICSA members to provide corporate advisory services to their board,” says Peter Lim.

Nilai U is also working with MAICSA for a Collaborative Master’s programme. There are also plans to make Nilai U an accredited Continuing Professional Education and Examination centre. These internationally-recognised qualifications will be a boon to students to pursue a lucrative career, making them highly sought-after professionals globally.

Besides academic knowledge, Nilai U believes in giving students an added competitive edge with professional certification from relevant organisations. MAICSA is the latest organisation to lend its considerable weight to Nilai U’s efforts in giving its graduates rewarding career options. On record, Nilai U has signed MoUs with Gribbles Pathology, Malaysian Food and Beverage Association and the Institute of Chartered Accountant in England and Wales among others.
Let the Games Begin

Nilai U hosts MASISWA Games and announces its status as a PST for the sport of fencing.

Nilai University (Nilai U) hosted the MASISWA Games (Central Zone II) 29-30 Sep 2012 at its Putra Nilai campus. This is one of the few occasions a private university has been given the honour of hosting the games, which is the largest sporting event under the purview of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE). The games saw approximately 1,100 athletes compete in rugby, team chess, netball, badminton, volleyball, and sepak takraw. MASISWA is the largest of four sports councils within the Ministry which promotes sporting activities among the undergraduate population.

During the opening ceremony, Nilai U officially announced its newly acquired status of Pusat Sukan Tumpuan (PST) – Lawan Pedang. It is only the second private higher education institution to receive this status from the Ministry of Higher Education with the aim of introducing this sport to a wider audience and developing a new generation of champions in fencing. Under this programme, Nilai U’s principal roles are to spot, nurture and develop talented young fencers. This programme is not limited to Nilai U students. Those who have a penchant for this sport can join in the training programmes which will be held at Nilai U and make use of the facilities set up for this sport. The plan is to also make Nilai U the one-stop training centre for all national fencers.

“We already have an Olympian in this sport. The aim is for this project to produce a larger talent pool than can compete at the SEA and Asian Games, and of course, hopefully bring home an Olympic medal in the future. As a PST, Nilai U will not only be talent scouting but also act as a research centre for this sport,” says Datuk Rahim Bin Mohd Noor (Secretary General, Ministry of Higher Education) referring to the national fencer Yu Peng Kean who took part in the 2012 London Olympics, and who was on hand to conduct a brief demo during the launch ceremony. Yu was aided by Muhammad Radhi bin Hasim (Team Sabre Malaysia) and Nurul Ariezzat Nazreen bin Ismail (Team Sabre Malaysia).

Nilai U’s philosophy is to produce well-rounded graduates who are academically proficient and socially confident. Sports and extra-curricular activities have a very important role to play in this process. “It is a privilege to be able to host these games. This will allow students to network in a safe, friendly yet competitive environment,” says Michael Yei, Nilai U’s Director of Student Affairs and Sports. “We are all very excited at being named PST for fencing as we have been tasked with creating a new generation of champions in this sport. We want to breed athletes who are thinkers.”

Nilai U was established in 1997 and its administrators chose to build the campus on the city outskirts to allow students to enjoy a sporting and outdoor lifestyle. It features six schools and offers diploma, degree and master’s programmes in the fields of Business, Allied Health Sciences, Hospitality and Tourism, Humanities and Social Sciences, Foundation Studies, and Engineering, Science and Technology.

Competing teams will be from Nilai University, Taylor’s University, University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus, Segi University, International Medical University, Cyberjaya University College of Medical Science, Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University College, Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Sunway University, UniKL-GMI, Asean Metropolitan University and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman.
Different Strokes

Young swimmer sweeps three medals in MAPCU games and talks about what motivates her both in the pool and in the classroom.

Farah Lee Xu Jiaw comes from a swimming pool dynasty. She and her three siblings have represented Federal Territory or Selangor in both swimming and water polo. “Actually, it was because my eldest sister is crazy about swimming that my father dragged all of us to the pool,” says the young lady who has represented Federal Territory in both swimming and water polo. Farah says she began lessons at six and was in the school team the following year before breaking into the state team at age 10.

The 18-year old Foundation in Business student at Nilai University (Nilai U) showed her prowess when she made a clean sweep of the breaststroke category at the recent MAPCU Games, taking the gold in 50m, 100m and 200m categories. "The breaststroke is not popular but it was always my favourite stroke, and although there were many other state swimmers at the competition, I was able to win," smiles the shy and softly-spoken former SMK Sri Chempaka Ceyran student.

The quiet demeanour hides a steady determination which becomes immediately apparent when Farah outlines her daily routine. Not for her the stereotypical lifestyle of the slovenly student who gets up just in time for a mad dash to class. Farah is up before the break of dawn to savour the crisp, clean air of Nilai U’s suburban campus and starts her day with a rigorous training programme that is the hallmark of a successful athlete. She runs around the lakeside jogging track before spending a full hour on the teambuilding course on campus before hitting the weights in the gymnasium.

"I am serious about my swimming and also very serious about my education. That is why I chose Nilai University as it has the pre-university programme which would fast track me into the BA (Hons) in Business and Hospitality Management programme," says Farah. She admits that she was not clear about which field she wanted to enter at tertiary level but was suitably impressed by the demonstration and briefing conducted by Nilai U’s School of Hospitality and Tourism lecturers. "It sounds very exciting and I wanted to be involved in an area where I can meet people and travel," she says.

Recognising her talent in the pool, Nilai U administrators offered her an Extra Curriculum Excellence Award with 100% waiver on tuition fees and accommodation. Farah says her sport has taught her many valuable lessons. "Since I have been swimming competitively since an early age, I have learnt the importance of discipline and how to manage my time properly. There must always be balance between studies and sports," she explains. Although she admits that the workload in her Foundation in Business programme is much heavier than in secondary school, she says she is learning to cope. Her goal is to get good grades to enter the BA (Hons) in Business and Hospitality programme and also have enough time for her to improve her swimming and water polo skills.

"I won bronze medal at the Sukma Games in 2011 for water polo, I want to taste more success and also to break into the national team," declares Farah. The way she has excelled in the pool you would not bet against her achieving her goals, both in the academic and sporting arenas.

Nilai U emphasises a philosophy of ‘Enrichment for Life’ which places great emphasis on extra-curricular activities to help mould well-rounded graduates who are academically proficient and socially confident. They are also given choices on modules outside their field of specialty such as ‘Ethics’ and ‘Theatre and Acting’ to help them broaden their horizons.
Future Leaders Camp 2012
Nilai U co-organises and hosts leadership camp for fourth successive year.

(L-R) Imam Bashir Arafat (President, Civilisations Exchange & Cooperation Fund, USA) receiving a token of appreciation from Shariatah Bakhyah Syed Ahmad (Future Leaders Camp 2012 Project Director).

YAM Tunku Ali Redhauddin ibni Tuanku Muhirz delivering the keynote address at the opening ceremony of the Future Leaders Camp 2012.

The Future Leaders Camp is a great opportunity for participants to network.

Hands up if you are having fun at the Future Leaders Camp!

A Dale Carnegie Trainer makes a point during the session with the participants.

The Future Leaders Camp provides students a platform to integrate with their peers from various backgrounds.

Participants taking the Future Leaders Camp oath.

Enthusiasm for the Future Leaders Camp is clear for everyone to see.
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Commencement fee
RM 650

EXCELLENT AWARDS
HIGH ACHIEVER SCHOLARSHIP
Awarded to students with outstanding academic achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPM / O-Level</td>
<td>9As</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STPM</td>
<td>3As</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Level</td>
<td>3As</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEC</td>
<td>3As</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAM / HSC / AUSMAT TERAQAI 90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCPU</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100% tuition fee AND accommodation waiver

- Only applicable for the first programme registered (with the exception of the foundation programme where the scholarship will be based on the degree of maintenance of the CGPA requirements of 2.5 every semester)
- Merit Waiver for the tuition fee only
- Review required

EXTRA-CURRICULUM EXCELLENCE AWARD
Awarded to students with outstanding extra-curricular achievements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extra-curricular Exemplary achievement at State / National / Regional level events</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100% tuition fee AND accommodation waiver

- Only applicable for the first programme registered (with the exception of the foundation programme where the scholarship will be based on the degree of maintenance of the CGPA requirements of 2.5 every semester)
- Merit Waiver for the tuition fee only
- Review required

MERIT SCHOLARSHIP
Awarded to deserving students who have done reasonably well in their examinations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPM</td>
<td>Diploma 20% Foundation 40% Degree -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STPM</td>
<td>Diploma 20% Foundation 40% Degree -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-Level</td>
<td>Diploma 15% Foundation 30% Degree -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEC (6 best subjects)</td>
<td>Diploma 15% Foundation 30% Degree -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAM / HSC / AUSMAT TERAQAI 8.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCPU (6 best subjects)</td>
<td>Diploma 15% Foundation 30% Degree -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Only applicable for the first programme registered
- Require maintenance of a minimum CGPA of 3.5 every semester to continue to be eligible for the next semester
- Note: Waiver is off the tuition fee only

ENRICHMENT FOR LIFE AWARD
Awarded to students who have held active roles in leadership and extra-curricular activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPM / O-Level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STPM / UEC / A-Level / SAM / HSC / AUSMAT / KCPU</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Only applicable for the first programme registered
- Require maintenance of a minimum CGPA of 3.5 every semester to continue to be eligible for the next semester
- Note: Waiver is off the tuition fee only

INTAKE IN PROGRESS NOW
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To apply, Type <NAME> SPACE <CONTACT NO> SPACE <ADDRESS> send to 012 628 1139 or for more information please get in touch with:

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Email marketing@nilai.edu.my
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Tel: 07 226 2396 / 07 227 2397 Fax: 07 222 2399
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* Terms and conditions apply

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