

A timely boost

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STARTING off on a back foot will not be an obstacle for TAR College (TARC) students, after the college received an RM1mil boost in study loans.

The contribution is courtesy of Resorts World Bhd (RWB), in remembrance of its founder, and long-time TARC benefactor, the late Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong.

Named the TARC-Tan Sri (Dr) Lim Goh Tong Student Loan Fund, the fund will enable TARC to financially assist needy and deserving student for diploma and advanced diploma courses.

"Things change with time but good values can and should remain constant," said TARC council chairman Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting during the mock cheque presentation at the college's main campus in Setapak.

"It has been the goal of the college to help our students achieve not just academic excellence but also growth in personal character."

Ong added that those values include hard work, perseverance, sense of social responsibility and generosity, trademark characteristics of the late Tan Sri Lim.

Under the fund, each loan award would

be either RM5,000 or RM8,000 per annum. The fund would be made available for the May 2009 intake.

Loan recipients would be selected based on family background, academic and co-curricular achievements.

MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Tee Keat, who was present as well, emphasised that TARC was an institution for all Malaysians.

"We've been talking about cohesiveness, integration, and lately, 1Malaysia which should be embraced by all," he said.

"On this premise, I'm sure everyone is hopeful that TARC will grow from strength to strength with the RM1mil injection."

Meanwhile, RWB chairman Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay said that although his late father did not receive much formal education, he believed that Malaysia's future would be shaped through learning.

Having provided affordable education for the last four decades, TARC has 20 different student loan funds.

Amounts range from RM1,500 to RM8,000 per year and the college has given loans amounting to RM16.8mil to 9,684 students.

TARC's Merit Scholarship has benefited 7,000 students since its inception in 1997. In the 2008/09 academic year alone, 1,796 students have been awarded scholarships totalling almost RM5mil.



Tan Sri Lim (second from right) handing over the mock cheque to Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting (third from left) witnessed by Datuk Seri Ong Tee Keat (fourth from left). Looking on (from left) are college deputy principal Chan Kum Wing, principal Dr Tan Chik Heok and Resorts World Berhad executive director Tan Sri Alwi Jantan.