

Cash windfall

TAN Wei Zong was delighted to be at Sheffield Hallam University's award ceremony in Kuala Lumpur recently – and for good reason.

As the 5,000th Malaysian student to graduate from the university via Tunku Abdul Rahman College (TAR College) last year, Wei Zong was presented with a cheque for RM5,000 to celebrate the milestone.

Sheffield Hallam deputy vice-chancellor Prof Cliff Allan presented the cheque to Wei Zong, an MSc International Marketing student, at a special award ceremony to celebrate 11 years of successful partnership working in Malaysia.

Wei Zong completed a BA Business and Economics degree last year after spending 14 weeks studying at Sheffield Hallam's "Summer Semester".

The Summer Semester programme allows TAR College students to come to the United Kingdom (UK) to top up their Advance Diploma qualification to a degree from Sheffield Hallam University.

He enjoyed his experience so much that he has since moved to Sheffield to study his Masters qualification at the University.

On accepting his cheque, Wei Zong said: "At first I felt surprised; I did not know I was the 5000th student. I am delighted and very, very happy!"

"I feel everyone at Sheffield Hallam is very helpful and I have enjoyed coming back to the university to study as a postgraduate.



Delightfully lucky: Wei Zong celebrates after receiving a mock cheque from Prof Allan at the special ceremony.

"I will put the money towards my postgraduate course fees," he added.

Each March, all of those who have graduated from Sheffield Hallam degree courses are invited to attend a special ceremony in Kuala Lumpur.

Prof Allan said: "Sheffield Hallam University is proud of its work in South-East Asia, and is thrilled to be celebrating 11 years partnership with TAR College.

"The students who come to the UK are academically excellent and their feedback suggests that they find their time with us extremely rewarding.

"The South-East Asia office allows Sheffield Hallam University

to continue to develop valuable academic partnerships and business relationships in South-East Asia, and we look forward to continuing our work in this region."

Wei Zong's award ceremony followed Prof Allan's lecture in Kuala Lumpur about the growing internationalisation of higher education.

The lecture covered the importance of teaching graduates to have an international focus, the role of higher education in aiding economic and social development, and how growing economies can invest in higher education to further develop their country.