

LEARNING CURVE UNIVERSITIES

Collaboration on engineering research

A RESEARCH culture generates a vibrant academic community and strengthens a university's links with industry.

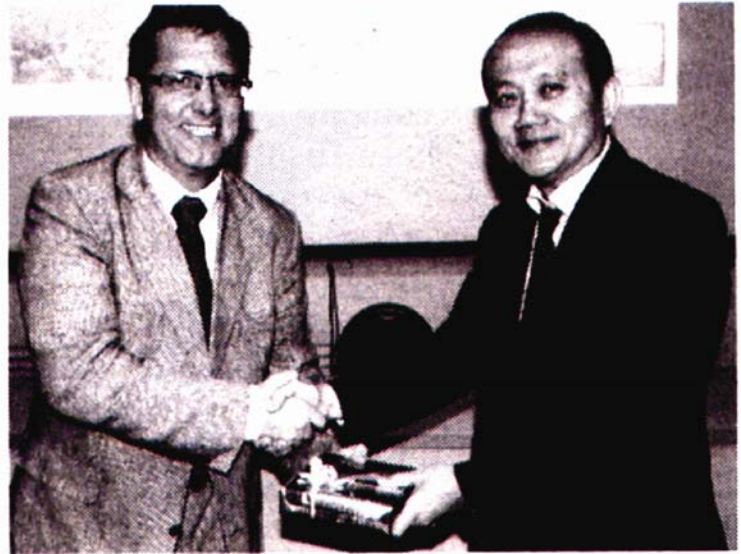
Tunku Abdul Rahman College (TAR College) has collaborated with its United Kingdom academic partner, Sheffield Hallam University (SHU), on technical support and expertise for its Advanced Engineering Research Centre (AERC).

The centre is the first to be established in TAR College's School of Technology and aims to become a centre of excellence in Malaysia for innovation, teaching, research and application of advanced engineering concepts.

It marks another step in the college's drive towards developing a research-based culture to further enhance its ties with industry.

TAR College principal Tan Chik Heok in his speech at the launch, which marked the collaboration, says: "Given SHU's track record in industrial research, its experiences and tools will help our faculty members in resolving problems faced by industry partners."

SHU's Systems Modelling and Integration Research Group of Material and Engineering Research Institute is a well established research group internationally known for its consultancy work in computer stimulation and



Cliff Alan (left) receiving a memento from Tan Chik Heok

Correction: "Tan Chik Heok" should be read as "Dr Tan Chik Heok, Principal of TAR College."

automation.

SHU deputy vice chancellor Professor Cliff Allan, who was also at the launch, says that the tie-up will be a catalyst for developing further research links between the two institutions.

At the initial stage, the AERC will establish the Advanced Manufacturing System facility, acquire relevant software system and work with local companies on joint research projects.

In addition to exploring funding for research projects, there will be staff exchanges and the development of joint training programmes.