

# Bridge to quality education

**T**HE recent graduation ceremonies of both Liverpool John Moores University (JMU) and Sheffield Hallam University (SHU) in Kuala Lumpur held on Feb 28 and March 7 respectively brought about an air of excitement and joy.

This year's convocation ceremonies saw about 550 JMU and 500 SHU graduates awarded a Bachelor Honours degree from the UK universities. The JMU graduates were honoured with the presence of TAR College Council chairman Tan Sri Ong Ka Ting, while Deputy Minister of Higher Education Dr Hou Kok Chung congratulated SHU graduates for their success.

TAR College had long initiated a unique partnership with JMU as well as SHU, enabling students to gain valuable overseas exposure at an affordable price.

Due to the recognition of the Advanced Diploma by these UK universities, Tunku Abdul Rahman (TAR) College students can obtain an Honours degree upon completing their Advanced Diploma by attending a 14-week Honours degree conversion programme in the UK.

Not only do students from the various disciplines have the option of gaining an overseas degree, students of the School of Arts & Science at Advanced Diploma level are prepared to simultaneously sit for the external examinations that lead to the completion of the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree with Campbell University in the US.

The university is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in the US.

The estimated total fees payable to obtain the TAR College Diploma, Advanced Diploma and SHU or JMU honours degree ranges from RM28,600 to RM31,900. As for Diploma and Advanced Diploma students who are aiming for the Campbell University Bachelor of Science degree, they need only spend an estimated total fee of RM26,300 to complete the four-year of study at TAR College without having to leave Malaysia.

So far, over a total of 20,000 TAR College students have benefited from these educational partnerships.

These students embarked on their voyages of growth and self-discovery at the



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college and further afield at the partner institution in the UK. They found their educational experience a multi-dimensional one as they soaked up the experiences of the world and were prepared for working life in the local or global arena.

"This collaboration has been a vehicle for many of us to fulfil our dreams of studying abroad. It has really given us the best of both worlds," said Koh Yen Jern, a BA (Hons) Accounting & Finance graduate from SHU.

He won the TARC Prize for the best performing student on the programme for March 2010.

"From graduating with a UK degree in Sheffield to travelling in Europe, and now working for a London-based international company, I'm glad that TAR College gave me an education foundation that has led

me further and higher," said Christy Choong, an alumni of TAR College and SHU who is currently working as a senior account manager with a UK-based conference management organisation.

TAR College continues to forge more collaboration to enhance its programme offerings. Now, students are even able to pursue a foreign postgraduate qualification with Birmingham City University (BCU) and Edinburgh Napier University (Napier) whereby TAR College Advanced Diploma graduates can enjoy affordable pathways to further education.

The progression opportunity to an MSC in Accountancy at BCU is applicable for the Advanced Diploma in Commerce (Financial Accounting) graduates. The students only require six months to obtain the Master's qualification.

For Napier, the route to the Master's course is made affordable as the students will do three modules in Kuala Lumpur, another three in Napier, Scotland, and the final dissertation can be done either in Malaysia or Edinburgh.

Hence, students can enjoy an international touch to their programme by studying different modules in the home country and abroad.

The May intake is now in progress and application forms are available at all TAR College campuses. Online application is also available at [www.tarc.edu.my](http://www.tarc.edu.my).

> For details, contact 03-4145 0100/123 KL main campus), 04-899 5230 (Penang), 05-466 0388 (Perak), 07-927 0801 (Johor), 09-231 4185 (Pahang) and 088-718 482 (Sabah).