KOLEJ Tunku Abdul Rahman (Ktar) recently proved that it has what it takes to produce students who are astute in taxation and investment, both important components of any business enterprise.

In the Deloitte Tax Challenge 2009, the college stamped its mark by winning the Champion Award (individual category) for the second consecutive year, as well as bagging awards as the first and second runner-ups in the team category.

Tan Chia Woon, a first year student for the college's Advanced Diploma in Commerce (Financial Accounting) was judged as the champion in the individual category of the competition, and attributed her success to the support and guidance of her lecturers.

She expressed appreciation for being exposed to real-life application of case studies at the college, as these helped her through the rigorous online and written tests as well as her presentation to Deloitte's board of directors. She won herself RM2,000.

Universiti Malaya (UM) student Lee Shee Yan and Sunway University College student Lim Kar Hoe came in second and third in the individual category, bringing home RM1,500 and RM800, respectively.

As for the team category, Ktar's Team Synergy and Taxpro were first runner-up and second runner-up and won RM3,000 and RM1,500, respectively. Team Eternity from UM won the championship to bring home RM5,000.

The college's School of Business Studies head Kho Sok Kee was ecstatic about both wins. "The achievement by the students is a testimony of the relevance and rigour that we put our students through in our business courses. The courses were designed to give the students a very comprehensive coverage on the principles and concepts, as well as a broad knowledge of various disciplines."

Deloitte Malaysia tax leader Ronnie Lim said, "We are very happy to see that the number of participants in the second year of the challenge has doubled.

More and more students and universities are beginning to appreciate the advantage that the Deloitte Tax Challenge provides to participants when they seek employment in the future."

He added that the judges were impressed with the participants' answers as they were "well structured and had good substance".

The month-long competition saw 1,195 Malaysian undergraduates and 56 teams from 31 universities and colleges battling out at various stages to solve complex business problems that arise in everyday tax practice.

Besides written tests, participants were also required to present their financial recommendations for simulated business cases orally to a panel of Deloitte judges, who played the role of a Board of Directors of a company during the finals.