THE CREME DE LA CREME

Tunku Abdul Rahman College (TAR College) has earned the reputation as one of the premier institutions of higher learning in Malaysia, since its inception in 1963. It has made a mark in the education scene by providing quality and affordable education. Celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, the college's success is reflected in its track record of having produced more than 140,000 graduates to the workforce.

TAR College's School of Business Studies, in particular, has carved a niche in professional education such as ACCA, CIMA and ICSA qualifications since its establishment in 1987. The college has been awarded the ACCA's Platinum status, which is the highest level of accreditation that ACCA grants to its Approved Learning Partners.

This award has proudly positioned TAR College within the top 10% of ACCA tuition providers worldwide. TAR College also has the distinction of being the only institution outside the UK and Ireland accorded the privilege to conduct the ACCA Internally-Assessed programme since 1997.

Such privilege shows that the college continuously met the rigorous evaluation criteria set by ACCA for this programme and it also testifies to the world-class standard that is consistently delivered by the college.

Quah Jun Loong (third from left) and his teammates emerged as the first runners-up in the 2008 Citibank-Universiti Malaya Interarsity Case Study Challenge.

Students from this programme proceed into the final professional part of ACCA and complete the qualification simultaneously with their Advanced Diploma studies. Over the years, TAR College has proven itself to be an excellent choice for young aspiring accountants.

It adopts a holistic education philosophy advocating a well-balanced education.

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Tional offering that includes projects, workshops and conferences, industrial attachment, mastering of ICT skills as well as presentation and communication skills, to prepare students well to face the challenges of the demanding job market.

"ACCA at TAR College is unique in that the experienced academic team here drives students to excel beyond just passing and to graduate imbued with attributes to make them highly employable," said Koh Swee Kow, the head of School of Business Studies said.

TAR College has garnered a great reputation for consistently producing high achievers who emerged ACCA subject prize winners and even ACCA top affiliates.

Last year, TAR College Advanced Diploma in Commerce (Financial Accounting) cum ACCA graduates Dinaailzah Sze Ling and Rokiah Choon Ling Yap made everyone proud when they grabbed the first and second placing of the ACCA Malaysia Top Affiliates in the June 2009 ACCA examination.

They have been ranked first in Malaysia and second in the world for ACCA professional level exams P4 and P5 respectively.

Instead, this is not their first time winning an ACCA subject prize as both of them also emerged top in Malaysia for a professional level paper in the December 2007 ACCA examination.

The close networking established by TAR College with various prominent industry players provides students with ample opportunities for industrial placement in major corporations such as the Big Four audit firms.

For Quah Jun Loong, a year-year student of the Advanced Diploma in Commerce (Financial Accounting) cum ACCA programme, the industry attachment stint has provided him with valuable insights in the real working environment.

He worked as a Vacation Trainee at Ernst & Young as well as an intern at KPMG during his semester breaks.

"These internship experiences have led me to appreciate everything the TAR College lecturers taught. The training was a real eye opener which shed light on life as an accountant or auditor," said Jun Loong, who is a recipient of The Star Education Fund scholarship.

Jun Loong has also participated in various competitions inside and outside the campus.

He and his team members emerged as the first runners-up in the Citibank-Universiti Malaya Interarsity Case Study Challenge and the Business Simulation Game organized by MICPA.

In addition to that, Jun Loong's team emerged as the champion in the TARC Inter-Campus English Debate Competition for two years in a row, of which he also won the title of the Best Speaker in the 2007 competition.

When he was involved in TAR College's Financial Accounting Society as the Director of Liaison, Jun Loong contributed to the effort of organizing various activities such as the ACCA Student Conference and field study trips.

Visit TAR College's Open Day at all its campuses from March 12 to 29 (10am to 4pm), or at major education fairs.

Alternatively, visit TAR College's campuses at: 03-4645 0002/23 (KL, main campus); 04-9925 230 (Perak); 05-4660 388 (Perak); 07-9270 801 (Johor); 08-2348 185 (Penang), and 0816-718 488 (Sabah), or visit www.tar.edu.my.

The first and second ACCA Top Affiliates in Malaysia for the June 2009 ACCA examination.