



## Global Leaders of Open Distance Learning Institutions meet at High Level Roundtable Conference in Malaysia

**FOREIGN** and local participants from 20 countries at the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) High Level Roundtable Conference held in Malaysia.

**A**sia e University (AeU) and the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) co-hosted a two-day International High Level Roundtable Conference held on 10 and 11 May 2018 in Holiday Villa, Subang Jaya, Malaysia

A total of 31 dignitaries, industry global leaders, policy-makers and academic practitioners, who participated came from 20 countries. Besides North America, Europe and the Oceanic countries, the majority came from Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa countries.

Distinguished delegates from the Commonwealth of Learning are Professor Asha Singh Kanwar President & CEO and Professor Romeela Mohee, Education Specialist, Higher Learning. Other distinguished speakers were Asia e Learning Sdn. Bhd.'s Director and Board of Governors, YBhg. Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Syed Jalaludin Syed Salim and the President/CEO of AeU, Professor Dato' Dr Ansary Ahmed. The Conference focused on "Leadership and Innovation for the Future of Open Distance Learning (ODL)," "ODL as Disruptive Innovation," and "Lifelong Learning."

### About COL

COL, headquartered in Canada is the world's only intergovernmental organisation, created by the Commonwealth Heads of Government to encourage the development and sharing of open learning/distance education knowledge, resources and technologies to improve access to quality education and training.

### About AeU

AeU is a collaborative multi-mode university established under the auspices of 34 Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) countries. A key feature in AeU's strategic plan is to embrace the digital frontier and provide students with an immersive personalised and borderless education experience with goals of flexibility, quality and relevance, anytime, anywhere, any size and on any device globally. A highly accessible, mobile, visually rich and interactive digital presence would enable students to achieve at their own pace no matter where they were geographically, academically or where they were in their life or career stage.

### Testimonial from an AeU Sarawakian Alumnus

Dr. Mak Met, a Senior Vice-President Human Resources at Sarawak Energy Berhad in Kuching, graduated with AeU's Doctor of Administration (DBA) in 2015. He shares his learning experience on how he had achieved his dream by pursuing his DBA studies with AeU without giving up his job or sacrificing his family quality time and commitments.

Dr Mak says "In May 2011, I enrolled in AeU due to its flexible learning mode, accessible anywhere anytime and the fee is affordable which is good for working adults like me.. During the course of my study, I chose to fly in to AeU main campus to attend the workshops, seminars, research colloquia and research clinics held during weekends. Each time I felt excited as I was able to network and meet



**DR. MAK MET**, AeU's DBA alumnus of 2015 from Sarawak.

new friends from diverse backgrounds. Another plus point is that the programme is internationally benchmarked, approved by the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education and accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency."

As a strong advocate of lifelong learning, Dr Mak invites others to enjoy this "learning adventure." Having attained the highest level of academic qualification, yet he believes learning never stops that one needs to develop oneself continuously, search for new ideas and apply them to solve problems and contribute meaningfully to society and live a purposeful life.

Today AeU has 15,000 graduates and cumulative student numbers exceeding 29,000. This is a testimony on AeU's capability to produce high-calibre graduates. Besides, AeU has over 3,000 students taking its programmes at its collaborative learning centres abroad including those in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Africa.

Intakes for all postgraduate (by research) programmes such as DBA, PhDs and Master of Science (Management) and Master of Social Science are open throughout the year. For undergraduate programmes, the annual intakes are in January, May and September. For further enquiries, please call Tel: 1300 300 238, +603 5022 3400 or apply online at [www.aeu.edu.my](http://www.aeu.edu.my)