

AeU helps single mother to achieve her dream

A Johorean, Liow Zen Min enrolled in Asia e University (AeU) in Master of Education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education in 2014. A believer in lifelong learning, she graduated in 2016.

“My ambition is to become a specialist in early childhood education and a motivational speaker. I like to inspire women to overcome their hardships, live independently and persevere to pursue their dreams,” said Liow.

“My first degree is Bachelor of Commerce and Management by Lincoln University, New Zealand. I researched online for a postgraduate programme from a reputable university where I can study without giving up my work. After browsing through many universities I found AeU as having the most ideal open distance learning for me to pursue my studies,” she added.

“As a single mother, aged 42 with 2 kids, aged 7 and 8, life has not been easy. Being the bread winner, I have to work very hard and constantly multitasking in my busy schedule between work and family obligations such as looking after my children’s welfare, do endless house chores to accomplish as much work as possible and also study,” said Liow.

“I am also a business owner of EW Kidz Enrichment Center and Wawasan Zen Management. The first business is teaching young children to be independent readers. The second one is a partnership where I run a school for special needs children in Kulai, Johor. I am also a part-time lecturer of Southern University College in Johor,” said Liow.

“As a specialist in teaching young children to be independent readers, I also trained my daughters to be independent readers since they were 1.5 years old. I took pride that they could finish the whole set of Ladybird Peter and Jane story books independently by the time they were 4 years old,” Liow added.

“Every evening after work, I will spend time going through my daughters’ studies, teaching and coaching them. After they sleep, I start to do house chores, and prepare teaching materials for classes and the university thereafter I will start to do my assignments at almost midnight. It happened so many times that I fell asleep in front of my laptop after typing a few sentences. Even when I prepared for my examinations, I sometimes dozed off unconsciously. I tried to drink coffee and chicken essence to keep myself awake but still fell asleep after half an hour. Finally, I decided to



Liow Zen Min, AeU graduate in Master of Education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education.

consume ginseng and that really kept me awake for hours to prepare for my assignments and examinations,” said Liow.

There was a time one of my daughters asked me, “Mummy, do you have holiday?” My other daughter promptly interjected, no, mummy does not have any holiday, mummy keeps working, doing assignments and preparing for examinations! This question really reminded me that I did not have a holiday for quite a long time till after I complete my programme,” Liow said.

The main reason why I chose AeU was because it provided me the flexibility to study anywhere, anytime which allows me to structure learning around my already busy life schedule,” she said.

“Although I am a fully online student from Johore, I tried not to miss any of AeU’s seminars and attended most of it by driving or took flights to the campus in Kuala Lumpur. The seminars are interesting and it helped me to develop a deeper understanding on my studies and at the same time enabled me to network with the professor, academic facilitators and other course mates,” said Liow.

“Despite my struggles, I managed to submit all my assignments before deadlines and scored GPA 3.33 in my first semester, GPA 4 in my second semester and GPA 3.92 in my third semester,” she said.

Liow continues, “I have benefited a lot from this programme because the theories I learned are not only closely related but also applicable to my work. Besides, it gives me an opportunity to pursue my goal in earning a valuable Master of Education qualification to enhance my career and at the same time, fulfilling my ambition and dream”.

“My daughters are my greatest motivation in my life’s struggles. I am very thankful and grateful to my mother for her support. I am also very grateful to all the professors, lecturers, academic facilitators and staffs who have been very friendly and helpful in my studies. I hope to inspire others especially the single mothers and the less fortunate men and women not to give up their struggles but to work towards their dreams and achieving their goals”, she added.

Meanwhile, in AeU, there are three intakes annually; January, May and September. However, for all postgraduate research programmes, intakes are open throughout the year. For information, visit www.aeu.edu.my, email: enquiries@aeu.edu.my or call toll free 1-300-300-238