

POSTGRADUATE OPTIONS

Accountant can teach thanks to AeU

ACROSS the globe, education is important to expand opportunities but, at the same time, competition for entry into degree programmes is also intensifying.

With the onset of the National Education Blueprint 2013-2035, there is high demand for postgraduate teachers and leaders to manage schools and learning institutions more effectively.

Asia e University (AeU) is offering a Master of Education (MEd) to cater to the growing demand for education experts in the industry. Its objective is to equip learners with up-to-date knowledge and specialised skills to enhance their careers.

It is ideal for graduate teachers working in nurseries, schools, colleges and universities, and those working in a supporting role, as well as education leaders and policymakers.

This initiative undertaken by AeU is to build the educators' capacity in tandem with the national aspiration to improve their capabilities and the education standard by year 2020.

AeU's School of Education & Cognitive Sciences (SECS) offers the two-year Master of Education (MEd) with 10 specialisations, such as Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL), Nursing Education, Early Childhood Education, Educational Psychology, Instructional Technology, Educational Management, Science Education, Educational Assessment & Evaluation, Curriculum & Instruction and Higher Education Teaching.

Assessments include two assignments (60 per

cent) and examinations (40 per cent).

The course delivery is either fully online or blended learning — a combination of face to face tutorials and online learning where students can choose according to their lifestyle.

Tutorial sessions, which are conducted by qualified and experienced academic facilitators, are only on weekends, once a month.

Approved by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and accredited by the Malaysia Qualifications Agency (MQA), AeU's MEd is one of the few fully accredited programmes of its kind in the country.

"Our MEd programme equips students with relevant theories and practices to function in a global society, and teach effectively in culturally and socially-diverse classrooms. Graduate programmes provide opportunities for advanced study and research towards the development of innovative responses to the challenges of 21st century education," says SECS dean Professor Dr John Arul Phillips.

"Soon after graduation, graduates are ready to assume instructional and curriculum leadership roles in their respective educational institutions. This is targeted as the programme's learning outcomes that we have specially designed to intensify graduate's competency in teaching and enrich their leadership skill to further navigate and fulfil the education needs.

"Having students from diverse range of educational backgrounds, this programme is highly

flexible and able to accommodate candidates from all levels of working backgrounds."

Chow Choi Chin, an accountant, has always wanted to be an early childhood educator. With encouragement from her family, she enrolled in the Master of Education at AeU in 2010.

She graduated with the Chairman's Award at AeU's convocation last year as the best graduate with excellent academic achievement and holistic personal attributes at the postgraduate level.

"My most challenging task was to strike a balance between work, family and life. Thankfully, I had the support of AeU staff and academic facilitators, who are passionate in imparting knowledge, which enabled me to continue to strive to complete my Master's degree. I also attribute my success to the unwavering support of my family and fellow classmates."

She said the e-learning paradigm at AeU made available all learning materials and online databases needed for completion of assignments, preparation for examinations and the research project, giving her access to materials anytime and anywhere at her own convenience.

"I feel that that the Master in Education has given me the confidence to be an effective educator and, perhaps venture into a different career path. I can apply the ideas and principles learnt in the programme as an early childhood educator.

"My accomplishment enables me to be a role model for my children and, hopefully, that will leave a positive impact for them to achieve their future academic goals.

"I like the way AeU runs its MEd, where it

enables me to broaden my knowledge in early childhood development aspects," says Chow, who believes that the programme has definitely given her an edge.

Admissions for the MEd programmes can be applied through normal or open entry paths.

For normal entry path, candidates should have a recognised degree and teaching experience for two years.

Non-graduates with relevant experience can apply to do the Master's programme under AeU's open entry system, where candidates are assessed by their experience through formal and informal training, including work experience.

AeU offers various financial aids and incentives, which include the Merit Scholarship for top-performing students, a 10 per cent discount for full payment of semester fees, 10 per cent discount in student loyalty schemes, 50 per cent discount for senior citizens aged 55 and above, and 75 per cent discount for disabled learners.

AeU also assists students to apply for loans and EPF withdrawal, and the MyBrain15 Sponsorships (doctoral & Master's only. Government and private sector learners are eligible to apply).

AeU today has an enrolment of more than 20,000 students internationally in 63 countries, and has produced more than 6,000 graduates thus far. It also has a diverse international community of about 1,000 doctoral students from 46 countries.

Registration for the May semester is now open. For further enquiries, call 1300-300-238, or apply online at www.aeu.edu.my.



Chow Choi Chin, an accountant who graduated from Asia e University with a **Master's in Education** and the **Chairman's Award** during the university's convocation last year, says her degree has given her the **confidence to be an effective early childhood educator**



The **Asia e University (AeU)** campus in Kuala Lumpur. AeU is offering its **Master of Education (MEd)** to cater to the growing demand for education experts in the industry.