



President and CEO of AeU Prof Datuk Dr Ansary Ahmed speaking at the Asia Regional Consultation on Open Educational Resources event.

Harnessing technology in learning, teaching

EMBRACING the digital frontier and providing its students with a personalised and borderless education experience are key features of Asia e-University's (AeU) 2017 strategic plan.

AeU seeks to be one of Asia's premier university in driving the digital frontier – to enable globally connected education for the jobs of the future that makes a difference to the communities it serves.

It continues to provide opportunities for students to engage with the university and each other via mobile devices, to deliver higher education anywhere, anytime and increasingly any size.

Leveraging on the new Edtech, AeU will deliver market-driven programmes especially for the Asian market.

AeU president and chief executive officer Prof Datuk Dr Ansary Ahmed said the new strategic plan is to ensure that AeU is at the leading edge of digital learning.

He is confident that AeU will continue to be ahead of the other institutions in digital learning.

"Learning at AeU will be truly digitised to give an immersive personalised learning experience," said Prof Datuk Ansary.

"In an age where the Internet, social media and mobile devices reign supreme, we believe that is important for AeU to constantly innovate and embrace the appropriate technologies to reach out to our students and give them an enriching learning experience."

"Students use a variety of mobile devices to socialise and to access information, resources and expertise and have come to expect that access everywhere, anytime, and on any device."

He said a highly accessible, mobile, visually rich and interactive digital presence enables students to achieve at their own pace regardless of their geography, academic achievements or their current situation.

In this digital age, he argued, there are many innovative ways of doing business and universities should be no exception to this challenge.

"We are in a brave new world of higher education, where universities are no longer the sole providers of knowledge, and where content is increasingly ubiquitous, free and accessible to all," he said.

He perceived that universities that continue to succeed are those that embed digital opportunities in their work culture and enhancing student learning experiences.

"A primary objective of the strategic plan is to delight our students, staff, alumni and global partners by facilitating a highly personalised and customised relationship with the university," Prof Datuk Dr Ansary said.

AeU addressed the challenges of making learning and teaching more accessible and more flexible to those seeking to engage in learning whenever and wherever they choose.

"Our task now is to ensure our students get a truly immersive and empowered learning through addressing real-world problems."

To that end, the university's drive promotes new methods of learning, its forward-thinking staff, technological infrastructure and global partnerships.

Although the main focus is on learning and teaching, AeU also looks at technology as a way to improve support services.

Besides a well-equipped conventional library, it houses thousands of online resources in academic books, journals, magazine articles, newspapers, encyclopedias and dictionaries.

Prof Datuk Ansary said the extensive online library resources have been specially designed to provide globally accessible resources to provide personalised learning experiences for all students.

"We have formed partnerships with established, credible academic and professional organisations to provide world class education to our students."

Partnerships enable AeU to provide market-driven tertiary education that meets the needs of the industry, and benefits the Asian economy.

He reiterated the focus is set to strengthen AeU's presence in Asia by expanding its network of collaborations across the region to become one of Asia's leading universities.

"With over 11,000 graduates and cumulative student numbers exceeding 22,000, these figures speak volumes of our capability to produce high-calibre graduates," he said.

He also mentioned that 3,000 students are taking AeU's programmes at collaborative learning centres abroad in the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Africa.

AeU is a unique collaborative multinational university established in 2007 under the auspices of 34 Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD).

Its member countries leverage on AeU's e-education platform to increase higher education accessibility for all and narrow the digital divide.

Through shared collective expertise and strategic linkages with numerous educational partners, AeU delivers programmes imbued with the goals of flexibility, quality and relevance to provide a truly personalised and lifelong learning for the masses.

AeU's programmes range from diploma to PhD levels. All academic programmes are internationally benchmarked, approved by the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education and accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency.

Programmes are offered through AeU's School of Management, School of Education and Cognitive Sciences, School of Information and Communications Technology, School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and School of Graduate Studies.

The university also offers more than 200 executive education programmes through the School of Professional and Executive Education and School of Technical Education, Engineering and Reskilling.

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