

# Partnership for advancement

ASIA e University (AeU) and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Friendship and Cooperation, Promotion of Mutual Understanding, Academic, Cultural and Scientific Thought and Personnel Exchange on Dec 23, last year.

The MoU was signed by UiTM vice-chancellor Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Hassan Said and AeU president and chief executive officer Prof Datuk Dr Ansary Ahmed.

The signing ceremony took place at UiTM's Shah Alam campus and was witnessed by AeU deputy president Prof Dr Hairudin Harun and UiTM's Faculty of Information Management dean Assoc Prof Dr Mohd Sazili Shahibi.

The MoU is an initiative to facilitate the mutual sharing of best practices and expertise in open-source software (OSS) development as well as the professional development of trainers.

AeU and UiTM will collaborate to harness open-source infrastructure for university operations and spread open-source principles.

Both parties endeavour to raise awareness in Malaysia of the benefits of OSS and encourage participation in OSS projects.

"This close collaboration will help us deepen our knowledge and understanding of best practices in OSS. Through partnerships such as this, UiTM and AeU seek to enhance the accessibility, quality and effectiveness of using OSS," says Prof Ansary.

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

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

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

AeU collaborates with institutions of higher learning (IHLs) and training centres in the ACD member countries to offer quality academic and professional training programmes that are affordable and accessible.

The university acts as a facilitator for the mutual accreditation and recognition of degrees and academic programmes among Asian IHLs.

It also acts as an enabler for IHLs in Asia to leverage on each other's resources and facilities, including the sharing of academic and professional programmes.

ACD member countries have recognised AeU as an instrument for greater Asia-wide cooperation and a catalyst in narrowing the digital divide

among communities and nations. AeU is set to champion e-education efforts to meet the human capacity needs of Asia.

## Upholding high standards

AeU prides itself in the high quality of its provision and is committed to maintaining high standards in all areas.

Academic standards are set and maintained in the assessment process through the approval of programmes, periodic review and the use of external examiners – independent academic peers from other institutions.

The academic provision of AeU is in compliance with the academic infrastructure developed by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), which governs the structure, content and standards of higher education in Malaysia.

As a learner-centred institution, AeU constantly looks for ways to ensure its learners receive the best education and a rewarding learning experience.

Programmes offered at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels are internationally benchmarked and approved by the Higher Education Ministry and accredited by MQA.

All AeU academic programmes, from diploma to PhD levels, are also recognised by several ACD and non-ACD member countries.

AeU's programmes are offered through AeU's School of Management, School of Education & Cognitive Science, School of Information & Communication Technology, School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences and School of Graduate Studies.

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

AeU strongly believes in providing a flexible and personalised learning experience anytime, anywhere and on any device.

Besides quality education, the curricula for all programmes are carefully designed to stay current and relevant to the multidimensional needs of local, Asian and global industries. The programmes' outcomes are monitored closely to produce well-rounded graduates.

AeU has spread its wings globally with an enrolment of around 22,000 students from more than 80 countries, ranging in age from 24 to 84. It has produced more than 11,000 graduates.

AeU's self-managed and self-paced learning is increasingly popular among working adult learners as it allows them to manage their time and map out ways to achieve their goals in their own unique environments.

■ For more information, call 1300 300 238 or visit [www.aeu.edu.my](http://www.aeu.edu.my).



AeU president and chief executive officer Prof Datuk Dr Ansary Ahmed (third from left) exchanging an MoU with UiTM vice-chancellor Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Hassan Said (second from left), flanked by AeU deputy president Prof Dr Hairudin Harun (right) and UiTM's Faculty of Information Management dean Assoc Prof Dr Mohd Sazili Shahibi (left).