

# Unique history created at AeU

> Four generations of PhD graduates converge

**A**n interesting history was created when four generations of professionals from various different institutions met their supervisor, Dr Oo Yu Hock for the first time at Asia e University (AeU).

The PhD graduates under Oo, who is currently the academic facilitator and consultant for AeU's School of Management, are UiTM Associate Prof Dr Hardev Kaur (1970s), UM Associate Prof Dr Ali Boerhannoeddin (1980s), UPM Prof Dr Ahmad Atory Hussain (1990s), and Dr Mooi Wah Kian (2000s).

Mooi, who last served as the Under Secretary at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) is an optional retiree of the Malaysian Civil Service. Fresh from balancing his work-study experiences and family obligations, he successfully completed his viva voce in November 2015 and was conferred the Doctor of Philosophy by AeU's Senate in March.

Mooi's PhD (BA) is not only a reflection of more than four decades of service as an active, dedicated civil servant whose duty and responsibility was to the nation but who over the last three years, has relentlessly overcome the challenging pursuit of completing the rigours of a doctoral degree.

"I am very proud and honoured to be a contributing part of this eventful history-in-the-making as the four-generation PhD phenomenon has happened without precedent as far as I know. Without the good guidance and advice from Oo, I would not have completed and passed my

PhD (BA) degree," Mooi said.

Mooi is the fourth generation civil service student under Oo's supervision. He discovered this fact after knowing his reviewers were the three-generation PhD academicians. They were also Oo's previous students at University of Malaya's Faculty of Economics & Administration where he retired as an associate professor.

"It was during my review that I learned I had the privilege of benefiting from the knowledge and experiences of the three-generation academicians. I don't think it can ever happen again in my life time and anywhere else except AeU," he said.

AeU is a collaborative multinational university established under the auspices of the 33 Asia Cooperation Dialogue Countries (ACD). All academic programmes are internationally benchmarked, approved by the Malaysian Ministry of Education and accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency.

Established since April 2007, AeU has spread its wings to ACD member countries - Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE and Vietnam as well as 17 non-member countries - Denmark, Hong Kong, Iraq, Kenya, Libya, Maldives, Mauritius, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sweden, Somalia, Taiwan, UK, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Today, AeU has an enrolment of more than 22,000 students from 65 countries and over 7,000 graduates. As one of Malaysia's leading provider of Open Distance Learning, AeU

has a diverse and international community of over 1,000 fellow doctoral students from 46 countries who are making a difference around the world.

Intakes for all postgraduate research programmes are open

throughout the year. Apply online at [www.aeu.edu.my](http://www.aeu.edu.my) and for enquiries, call 1300 300 238.



Oo, consultant for AeU's School of Management.



The four generations with their supervisor: (From left) Mooi, Ahmad, Ali, Oo and Hardev.