

A SIA e University (AeU) is a collaborative multinational university established in 2007 under the auspices of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD).

The university today has a diverse and robust international community of more than 22,000 students from 65 countries in total, out of which 1,000 are fellow doctoral students from 46 countries.

AeU's 7,000 alumni comprise both local and foreign nationalities of different cultures and races. They are the citizens of the world and are making a difference around the globe.

AeU's Alumni High Tea Reunion event themed, "It's Time to Reconnect" held recently was graced by AeU President and CEO, Prof Datuk Dr Ansary Ahmed and Deputy President, Prof Dr Hairudin Harun. The university's deans, directors and senate members were also present.

"Alumni are the heartbeat of AeU. They are our strength as they will play a critical role in advancing the university's vision and mission. In this globalised digital online age, learning is now ubiquitous, beyond classroom walls, anywhere, anytime and any size which come in the form of Nano Open Online Courses (NOOC)," Ansary said.

"Learning is now more engaging and more mentoring. It is important that alumni reconnect and engage with AeU as they are the most priceless resources and ambassadors for the university," he added.

Among the distinguished doctoral alumni who attended the event is Tan Sri Datuk Seri Dr Syed

A time to reconnect

> AeU organises an alumni high tea reunion event



AeU's alumni comprise both local and foreign nationalities of different cultures and races.

Hamid Albar who graduated from AeU with a Doctor of Philosophy (Business Administration) degree in 2014.

He served in the private and public service for over 40 years, and served as a cabinet minister under two prime ministers, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamed and Tun Abdullah Badawi for almost 20 years. He is currently the chairman of the Land Public Transport Commission of Malaysia.

"I believe the PhD degree has given me a better intellectual insight and is an achievement I did not expect at the age of 70," he said.

An exemplary alumnus, Dr Tan Teik Kheong is the first Industrial Doctorate graduate in AeU, and was conferred the title "Senior

Corporate Fellow" for his outstanding achievements. Tan is an educator, founder of several start-ups, mentor and technopreneur in the digital economy.

"AeU has given me the highest return on my investment. I have built relationships and friendships with the academic and operational staff of AeU, and have my very supportive supervisor and external examiners to thank for.

"I have also expanded on my portfolio from my earlier focus of just engineering services and products. Now I am able to include other services and products to those who are not familiar with "Data Science" or "Fintech" to create the best of both worlds in

finance and technology. As I love to teach, I have also enhanced my teaching and mentoring career," he said.

A minister from the Embassy of the Republic of Zimbabwe in Malaysia, Mafio Matthew Mlambo, also attended the event and obtained his MBA degree from AeU last year. He enrolled based on his son's research and recommendation when his son was doing his undergraduate degree in Malaysia.

"I am very happy to have made the right decision in choosing AeU. I have greatly benefited from AeU's unique flexible learning mode without the need to sacrifice my employment and family quality time.

"With my strong recommendations, one of my staff has enrolled in AeU's MBA programme, while a friend who works in Zambia Embassy enrolled in the PhD (Education)," he said.

Another alumnus who is among the first batch of MBA graduates in 2011 is Mahadevan Rajam. As a strong believer in lifelong learning, the MBA knowledge he gained has expanded his career after having worked as a mechanical engineer for 26 years.

"I became better in marketing and AeU's MBA has helped me to become an entrepreneur at 46. It's been six years and my businesses include public relations, engineering consultancy and renewable energy. I plan to further my studies in PhD with AeU soon," he said.

AeU rewards loyalty by offering returning alumni a 10% loyalty discount on postgraduate study, library membership and alumni business directory. The directory is to help support alumni who are business owners to help develop AeU alumni. It is available for alumni and the general public to view.

To be part of AeU's global community, all alumni are encouraged to update their profiles and contact the Alumni and Student Affairs department via email at saa@aeu.edu.my or calling 03 2785 0032.

Those who are interested in AeU flexible programmes can apply online now for the May intakes at www.aeu.edu.my.

Intakes for all postgraduate research programmes are open throughout the year. For enquiries, call 1300 300 238.