

Flexible doctoral programme

By **ERIC QUAH**

WHEN seeking to pursue a doctoral programme, upper managers, chief executive officers and even ministers would look for an institute that maintains high standards and offers flexibility.

Asia e-University is one such higher learning centre offering academic programmes such as PhD in Business Administration (BA), Education, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), and more recently in Arts and Humanities.

As for the doctorate, it offers the Doctor of Business Administration and the industrial doctorate.



AeU is one of the fastest growing post-graduate centres among the private institutes of higher learning.

Unlike undergraduates, PhD students are mature and would have done their research in assessing the benchmark that AeU has set

against other establishments offering similar programmes.

Some of these students are high-ranking officers. About 30% of those pursuing a PhD are foreigners and the number is increasing due to the flexibility and reach that open learning offers.

Among the high profile students are present and past ministers, both local and abroad. Among them are the former

Minister of Home Affairs Tan Sri Syed Hamid Albar and Namibia's Education Minister Dr David Namwandi.

AeU's Dean for the School of Graduate Studies, Professor Dr Siow Heng Loke (*pic*), said, "The fact that we have a good number of PhD graduate speaks for the quality of our doctoral programmes."

AeU attracts such high-level personages due to the university's flexibility, its excellent pool of supervisors who hail from all parts of the world and the maintenance of its global standards.

Siow added, "We leverage on the individual expertise of other well-established universities around the world."

With regards to PhDs, one of the major problems faced by students is the research method-

ologies and AeU assists them by providing research workshops on both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, data analyses and so on.

The university also prepares its students for proposal defence. It has a regular research colloquium where students can present their work to other students and professors who will give them constructive comment. This gives them the confidence when facing the research defence.

Workshops are also great venues for these high-ranking students to rub shoulders with other high-ranking personnel and develop a network that goes far beyond the boundaries of their life-long education at AeU.

■ For enquiries, call toll-free 1300 300 238, or visit www.aeu.edu.my