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ISM to expand franchising of APU's degree programs

TAWAU: The Tawau Institute of Science & Management (ISM) board of directors expressed their interest to further expand the franchising of Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation's (APU) degree programs to ISM during their recent visit to APU, located in Technology Park Malaysia (TPM) in Kuala Lumpur.

The ISM delegates were chairman Pang Kyun Fung, director Brian Tay Ming Yih, chief executive officer Lawrence Kow Cheng Tek, chief operations officer Madam Christy Wong Jin Ying and deputy registrar Madam Vivien Pang Fui Chung.

Pang said APU started as an IT institute under the government's initiative to increase number of IT professionals.

"APU is one of the most established institutions providing IT programmes in Malaysia. Since becoming a university, they have set up the business faculty, engineering faculty, etc. APU graduates are highly sought after by employers," he said.

The ISM delegates were welcomed by APU vice chancellor Prof. Ron Edwards, Dean, Quality Assurance & Partnerships Prof. Andy Seddon, Dean, Faculty of Business & Management Prof. Siva Muthaly, vice president (operation) Gurpardeep Singh and head of school, Faculty of Business & Management Dr. Tee Ding Ding.

Pang said the visit had been productive, as both institutions expressed interest to further expand the franchising of APU's degree programmes to ISM.

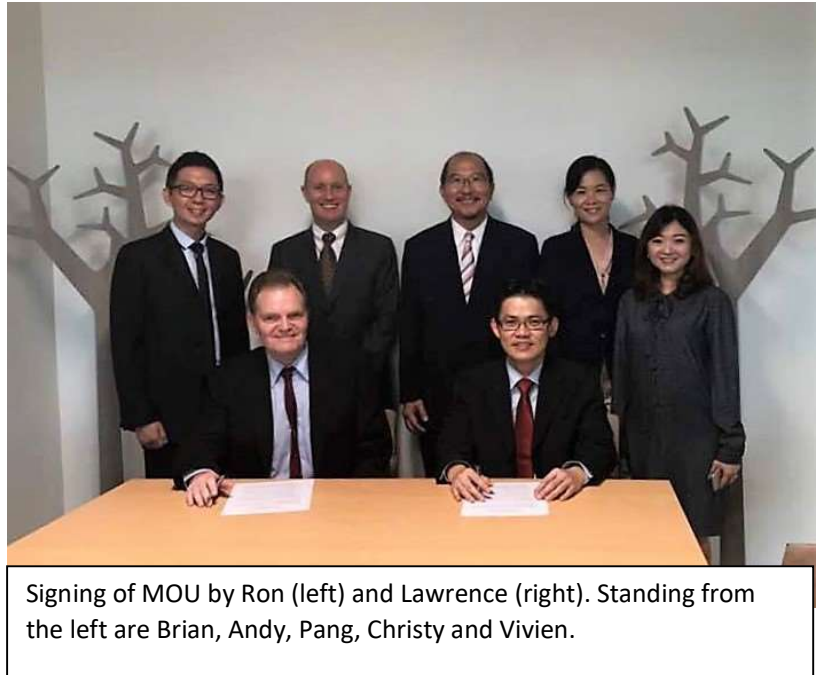
"The degrees to be franchised are BA (Hons) in Business Management and BA (Hons) in Accounting and Finance. Both degrees are affiliated to Staffordshire University (SU) in the United Kingdom."

"The model of collaboration is 2+1 (that is 2 years at ISM and final year at APU). Students will receive dual degrees- a certificate from APU and a certificate from SU."

ISM and APU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during the visit.

Pang said while the degree programmes were already well underway, ISM was targeting to have the first intake for both degrees in September 2018.

"This provides an invaluable opportunity for the prospective students to pursue a meritorious degree by undertaking the first two years of study in Tawau and be able to experience campus life at the new cutting-edge facilities of APU during their final year of study," Pang concluded.



Signing of MOU by Ron (left) and Lawrence (right). Standing from the left are Brian, Andy, Pang, Christy and Vivien.