The line between disorder and order lies in logistics.

A career for go-getters

This saying by ancient Chinese general, military strategist and philosopher Sun Tzu perfectly encapsulates the rising importance of the role of logistics — and the demand for those who have an educational qualification in this field.

With Malaysia’s signing of the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) in February this year, the spotlight is on the logistics industry. For companies to benefit from the TPPA and the new access to markets in countries like Canada, Mexico, Peru and the US — that did not have trade deals with Malaysia prior to this — companies need to fortify their supply chain and logistics services.

All these bode well for students pursuing UCSI’s logistics-related programmes such as the Diploma in Logistics Management, BA (Hons) Logistics Management, BA (Hons) Supply Chain Operations Management and MSc Logistics Management.

These programmes groom graduates to be logistics professionals trained in all aspects of the industry from warehousing to global sourcing and demand planning. In line with the global nature of the industry, students will also learn about the international regulatory framework governing the worldwide flow of goods and materials.

For graduates who are interested in travelling, this degree provides excellent opportunities for working overseas as most logistics multina-

tional corporations have branches in numerous countries and inter-country staff movement is common.

Two UCSI students who are succeeding in this field with UCSI’s BA (Hons) Logistics Management programme are Yeah Nyoke Kim and Elizabeth Reima.

For Yeah, she did not initially intend to pursue logistics.

She was enrolled in a business administration degree. “I am more of a hands-on person, so I get bored easily. Logistics is always changing.”

Yeah Nyoke Kim recently clinched the top student award (for UCSI) during the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malaysia (CILTM)’s Convocation Ceremony 2015.

Qualifying Exam (QEX), by the CILT, for its BA (Hons) Logistics Management programme. This means that graduates of UCSI’s BA (Hons) Logistics Management are permitted to use the letters MILT — the Membership status that is the first step towards a Chartered Membership. The MILT status provides local and international recognition. UCSI is also appointed as a CILT Training Provider.

“Not many universities have qualified for this professional membership, and I am confident this MILT status will help me stand out once I enter the working world,” said Yeah.

On top of this recognition by CILT, UCSI is well known for its close partnership with logistics giants that host UCSI’s logistics students during industry visits. Among these names are FKT Logistics, West Port and Maskargo.

The experience of seeing how logistics work first hand made a deep impression on Yeah and her friends as they were able to understand the entire process instead of just one component.

Yeah’s experience has been a positive one so far. In fact, she is currently the best student in UCSI’s BA (Hons) Logistics Management programme.

Upon her graduation, she was offered a permanent position with a global logistics company based in Hong Kong, where she did her internship. She excelled in her role and the vice-president for Freight Management personally came from Hong Kong to expedite her confirmation after just two months of probation instead of the usual three.

Unlike Yeah, Elizabeth knew from the start that logistics was the career for her and wasted no time in enrolling in UCSI’s Diploma in Logistics Management after high school. She chose to pursue the diploma instead of a foundation course.

“Logistics is always changing,” she explained.

Once she decided to pursue logistics, UCSI was the standout choice for her.

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