8 Nation THE STAR, WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2023





TOP300
PHARMACY AND
PHARMACOLOGY

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023

GOING BEYOND PRESCRIPTION AT UCSI



CHANGEMAKERS: UCSI pharmacy students champion community engagement initiatives that seek to raise awareness on medicine and public health.

You study pharmacy to do things that matter. Create the next miracle drug. Develop game-changing vaccines. Write the next chapter of public healthcare. If this is you, where you study will matter. And your time at university must lay the foundations for bigger things.

At UCSI University, pharmacy students bank on a 23-year track record of success, invaluable research opportunities and the opportunity to learn from thought leaders. This dynamic learning environment brings out the best in students. And many go on to drive innovation and lead change on the global stage.

Justin Ooi Feng Jun is one such alumnus.

Today, he works as a medical quality oversight manager with one of the world's premier biopharmaceutical companies. And he played a key role in overseeing the successful delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to Malaysia under the National Immunisation Programme.

"My years at UCSI had a huge impact on my skill set and knowledge," says Ooi, who graduated with the *Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)* in 2012. "I enjoyed many opportunities to apply my knowledge, from community pharmacy to industry or hospital attachments. It certainly helped me in my role as an industrial pharmacist and many of my peers are also enjoying good careers."

With the scourge of the pandemic behind him, Justin now oversees quality management systems in Malaysia and Brunei, driving inspection readiness activities and providing specialised consultation services.

Another alumnus who stands out is Lieutenant Gan Ee How. Graduating with the *Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)* in 2020, he took the road less travelled and joined the Malaysian Armed Forces as a military pharmacist. As a military officer, Lieutenant Gan's role extends beyond

pharmacy and he has had his fair share of moments when it comes to marching, search and rescue operations, as well as jungle navigation.



Lieutenant Gan Alumnus

My career is challenging as my work has bearing on military readiness as far as medicine and pharmaceutical support are concerned. As part of the Royal Medical and Dental Corps of the Malaysian Army, I'm also involved in military peacekeeping operations and humanitarian assistance

Ooi and Lieutenant Gan are two of the many UCSI alumni who are contributing to the nation in consequential ways.

medical supplies are not disrupted.

disaster relief missions around the world.

On such missions, my role is to ensure that

UCSI Pharmacy students are also selected for high-impact research programmes at the University of Chicago and the University of British Columbia. And they have worked alongside leading scientists in the fields of pharmacogenomics - the study of how genes affect a person's response to drugs; predictive modelling techniques to treat Parkinson's disease and the creation of new anti-epileptic drugs. These developments, and more, have resulted in international recognition.

UCSI was ranked for the first time for Pharmacy and Pharmacology in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023, breaking into the top 300. While the significance of this achievement is not lost on the University, Assoc Prof Dr Mogana Sundari Rajagopal, the dean of UCSI's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences is eager to do more.

Advertorial



Assoc Prof Dr Mogana Sundari Rajagopal Dean

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While the rankings show that we are on the right track, we must keep our focus on graduate outcomes, high-impact research and industry collaboration. We have a long track record of nurturing pharmacists who go on to impact society. And we want to continue providing students with the knowledge, skills and resources to write the next chapter of the pharmacy profession.

By track records, Dr Mogana is referring to over 1,400 pharmacy graduates; a 98% success rate in the Qualifying Examination for Registration as a Practising Pharmacist for five straight years and a 100% graduate employability score.

Apart from the acclaimed Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) programme, UCSI also offers Master programmes in Pharmaceutical Sciences; Pharmaceutical Chemistry; Pharmaceutical Technology; and Clinical Pharmacy Practice, as well as a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences. UCSI also offers the Bachelor of Formulation Science and three diploma programmes in pharmacy; cosmetic science; as well as packaging science and technology. UCSI offers generous scholarships and education grants for students who achieve good SPM, STPM, Fondation or A-Level results.

UCSI is ranked as Malaysia's top private university in the QS World University Rankings 2023. Ranked 284, UCSI is classified in the world's top 1%. UCSI is also the only university in the world to receive the QS Recognition for Improvement Award - an award given to the varsity that improves the most ranks on average.

Please email info.enq@ucsiuniversity.edu.my or call 03 9101 8882 for more information.