

Passion for Medicine at UCSI University

GIVEN its firm belief in a student-centred learning environment, UCSI University's Faculty of Medical Sciences has developed facilities as well as teaching modules which focus on the needs of students. In the latest development, the School of Medicine has acquired a fully-computerised Medical Lab at its Kuala Lumpur campus, and has further enhanced its curriculum to create well-rounded graduates.

The Medical Lab, located at UCSI University's Kuala Lumpur campus, can accommodate up to 60 people at any one time, and enables students to access notes, lectures, exam questions, as well as databases for various medical fields that may not be available in textbooks. There are also plans to make the same content compatible with students' handphones, so that they are able to access notes and lectures anytime.

According to Professor Dr Jammal Essa, Dean for the Faculty of Medical Sciences, the Medical Lab is unique, as it focuses on student-centred learning techniques, which enable them to discover their own learning styles. This approach is implemented in all courses at UCSI University. The Faculty of Medical Sciences started this technique by introducing a structured problem-based learning module for Medicine and Nursing students.

The University's Medicine programme is also among the first in the country to implement a fully structured course focusing on Ethics. According to Dr Jammal, the course is unique in the country. "The Ethics subject at UCSI University will run throughout the five years of the medicine programme, and is a fully structured course. Most universities teach ethics as part of other

subjects, but not a subject by itself." This module, he says, does not only teach students ethical and medical jurisprudence, but also allows them to think critically and learn to be a compassionate person, in medicine or in other fields.

The university is also constantly on the lookout to give students the best learning experience by provid-

ing the best teaching materials and sources. In its latest endeavour, the School of Medicine will be bringing in General Practitioners to lecture at the university. "While we have plenty of lecturers who are specialists and sub-specialists, we believe that bringing in general practitioners to give lectures to students will give them a holistic view of Medicine,"

said Dr Jammal.

The faculty is quickly expanding, in line with the high number of students coming in. UCSI University's Terengganu campus, which currently hosts final year medicine students, is adding a new academic block.

Towards the end of 2011, the Faculty will also have its own teach-

ing hospital in Bandar Springhill Port Dickson. In its initial phase, the hospital will be able to accommodate 400 beds, and will expand to 1,000 beds in the next phase. The hospital will be the training ground for UCSI University medicine and nursing students. "Students receive better exposure with a teaching hospital of our own," said Dr Jammal, who added that UCSI University will be the first fully-private University to build its own teaching hospital. "This shows our deep commitment towards the medical field and the lengths we will go to, to ensure quality facilities for our students."

Apart from the usual hospital setting, Medicine and Nursing students at UCSI University will also participate in the University's Annual Public Health Campaigns, where they would interact with the public, provide free health screening tests and conduct useful demonstrations such as self-breast examinations. Such an event would not only bring the students closer to the community, but would also sensitise them to become compassionate individuals concerned for the public's health.



Visit UCSI Open Days from the March 20 to 21 (between 10am - 5pm) and talk to the counsellors. The counsellors can also be contacted at 03-9101 8880 or visit: www.ucsi.edu.my/online-enquiry/
Or, visit the UCSI University website at www.ucsi.edu.my.

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