

Excellence in Educ@tion



UCSI University advocates using real-life medical problems as a means of learning.

Good medical care at UCSI's PD campus

AFTER 24 years, UCSI University has three campuses and another campus in the offing at Port Dickson.

In early 2008, the university signed a memorandum of agreement with West Synergy for the establishment of an education township in Bandar Springhill, Port Dickson.

The first phase of this township involves the setting up of a private teaching hospital that is set to begin construction by July.

This hospital, which would initially have 400 beds, would on completion have 800 beds.

The first phase includes the construction of a new building for the Faculty of Medical Sciences.

Once completed at the end of next year, the university's 2,000-strong Faculty of Medical Sciences at the Kuala Lumpur campus will move to its new premises in Port Dickson.

The new hospital will have the latest machines and instruments for surgeries.

Introduced in 2005, UCSI's medical programme has grown from an initial enrolment of 40 students to 334 students.

The first and second batches of medical students are undergoing their final three years of clinical Studies at Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital in Kuala Terengganu.

Students will also benefit from the problem-based learning subjects that are at the core of the medicine and nursing programmes at UCSI.

They will undergo weekly assessments.

Students will get "triggers" or problems which they would need to solve. The first trigger would be the patient's medical condition, which would be described to students.

The other two triggers would be the patient's medical history and results from the physical and laboratory examinations.

This approach of using real-life medical problems as a means of learning is most suited to medicine.

Early clinical exposure would allow students to begin sessions in a clinical skills unit where they can develop and acquire their interview and physical examination skills.

Fourth-year student Choo Kim Hoon said there was a lot of self-directed learning hours in their programme.

"The programme is also designed to make us study consistently throughout the semester instead of burning the midnight oil at the end of it."

Associate Dean for the the School of Nursing Associate Professor Jeya Devi said UCSI

aimed to produce graduates who were not only competent and confident, but also compassionate and conscientious.

"There is much emphasis in community services and students participate in community projects throughout the semesters."

Jeya said these activities enabled students to learn communication and public speaking skills.

Medicine and nursing students also put effort into research, which lecturers at the university emphasise from day one.

This is important, as every research done will have an impact on nursing and medicinal practices.

Some examples of the research done by students include foot care for diabetic patients and its association with the insulin pen and breast-feeding practices among women.

Medicine and nursing students also participate in the university's annual public health campaigns, where they mix with the public, provide free health-screening tests and conduct demonstrations for breast self-examinations.

UCSI will have open days from Feb 26 to 28 between 10am to 5pm.

For details, call 03-91018880 or visit www.ucsi.edu.my/onlineenquiry/