

INTI College offers affordable route to US varsities

By Jasbir Singh

MANY parents may now be reconsidering their decision to send their children to the United States for further studies. But before they do so, they should realise that there are many advantages the US education system offers. Moreover the cost may not be much lower elsewhere.

Students can still pursue their dream if they plan carefully.

"If students choose the right major, have proper financial planning and are prepared and confident, they would not have a problem studying in the US," said Margaret Ong of INTI College.

"The American education system gives student a well-rounded education and students who enrol for the AUP (American University Programme) would have to take courses that provide a foundation in many areas."

Ong is the associate vice-president (Student Services) and director of the Center for the American University Programme.

Another advantage of the programme is that students are guaranteed transfer to 20 universities in the US.

Contrary to popular belief the tuition fees at US universities are affordable.

and within the means of an average income family.

Fees range from US\$4,000 (RM15,200) to US\$23,000 per academic year while the cost of living ranges from US\$4,000 to US\$5,000.

Students can therefore choose a course, university and the duration of the study based on their financial ability and interest.

Part time work is also allowed for foreign students to supplement their income.

Scholarships are also available and more than 30 universities award scholarships to INTI students every year.

A total of RM674,358 worth of scholarships were awarded to 166 INTI students in 1997 and 1998.

The college itself awarded RM2 million worth of scholarships in 1997 and 1998 to outstanding and deserving students.

To further reduce the amount of time that students needed to spend in the United States, the college has also worked out a 3+1 arrangement with some universities.

The universities are Oklahoma State University, Wichita State University, University of Missouri-Kansas City, University of Central Oklahoma, Mississippi State University and Bemidji State University.

INTI students at American universities have consistently done well and have received awards.

Raymond A. Thavarajah received the Mechanical Engineering award from Shell Services of Houston, Texas while Wong Wai Tat received the Computer Engineering award from Exxon of Baton Rouge.

They were also the only Asians who received the College of Engineering's Outstanding Senior awards for their academic and leadership activities while at the Mississippi State University.

The next intake for the AUP is on Dec 24.

For more information, call 08-7329522 or 08-7922019.



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UP-TO-DATE ... This RM300,000 robotic arm is the latest addition to the School of Engineering and Technology at INTI College.