

2005 plan for e-campus project

The e-campus project at Inti College, which started early last year, is progressing well. SUZIEANA UDA NAGU traces the development of this ambitious enterprise.

INTI College Malaysia has a deadline to meet. By the year 2006, its main campus in Nilai, Negeri Sembilan, as well as three other branch campuses in Subang Jaya, Selangor, Penang and Kuching, Sarawak, are expected to operate as electronic campuses (e-campuses).

Dr Chia Swee Ping, the college's vice president of academic affairs, envisions ultra-modern and state-of-the-art facilities in less than five years.

"By then, students, staff and the public should be able to access facilities and services offered by Inti via electronic means, namely the Internet and telephone," he adds.

With less than four years to go before the deadline, Inti College's e-campus committee is hard at work to ensure the success of the project.

Inti is constantly searching for new ideas to guide it in its bid to implement e-campuses.

"We have to weigh our options before making any decisions," says Chia.

Keen to tap the minds of other universities which have successfully implemented e-learning, Inti recently held the *International Conference on E-Education: Implementation and Management* in Kuala Lumpur.

Attended by academicians from across the globe, the conference proved to be an enlightening experience for Inti.

"We discovered that there is quite a range of possibilities for the implementation of e-learning," says Chia.

The conference refreshed Inti's understanding of various modes of



information and communication technology (ICT).

The college has toyed with the e-campus idea for some time now, many years before the announcement was made.

But it became a matter of great urgency following the arrival of the new century and its attendant opportunities and challenges.

The idea of forming an e-campus then sounded a little far-fetched, given Inti's non-existent experience in the field.

The Inti College e-campus committee — responsible for overseeing the e-campus project — was not only entrusted with an enormous responsibility but also given a short deadline.

But in true professional fashion, it faced the challenge head-on.

The team was intent on transforming the traditional classroom learning mode into a comprehensive e-learning experience.

"Once the project is fully completed, students will have access to lecture notes from hostel rooms, libraries and any other parts of the campus," says senior vice president Dr Lee Fah Onn, in an interview with *Computimes*.

The team also aims to create a



CONDUCTIVE ENVIRONMENT ... A view of Inti College Malaysia's main campus in Nilai. The e-campus project is expected to be completed in 2005.

tremendous progress. This year Also on the list of applications is alone, Inti has developed several the Examination Online Database