

THE MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
(INSTITUT AKAUNTAN AWAM BERTAULIAH MALAYSIA)



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Endless opportunities

THE Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) was recently involved in the Graduan recruitment fair held in Australia. It was a good opportunity to showcase the MICPA-ICAA Programme for aspiring professional accountants – one qualification that entitles candidates to two memberships with prestigious professional accounting bodies, MICPA and the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia (ICAA).

This joint programme is the result of a strategic partnership between the two professional accounting bodies, which opens doors to endless opportunities. Graduates and members are entitled to join the Global Accounting Alliance (GAA) by virtue of their ICAA membership.

MICPA and ICAA organised a breakfast networking session in the ICAA office in Melbourne, where a forum on working as an accountant in Malaysia and beyond was held.

The forum's panellists consisted of three MICPA Council members – PwC Malaysia, partner and Assurance Human Capital leader Patrick Ng, Ernst & Young Malaysia managing partner Abdul Rauf Rashid and Deloitte Malaysia managing partner Tan Theng Hooi, as well as ICAA International Relations director Bill Palmer.

One of the students said, "As accountants, going back home is a more beneficial career choice as there are more opportunities to learn, and the learning curve is steep. The Malaysian economy's high growth rate is also another factor that would influence my decision to return home."

Palmer shared his personal experience on the vast international opportunities that an accountant can gain.

Ng, who is also an Australian graduate,



Ng (centre) meeting Malaysian students at the MICPA-ICAA breakfast talk in Melbourne.

shared his personal experience with the students on his transition to working in Malaysia after spending several years in Australia. He spoke about working life in the Big 4 and the value of taking up a professional accounting qualification in Malaysia.

Joewin Lee, a student from Monash University who attended the MICPA-ICAA breakfast networking session, was inspired by Ng's personal sharing of his journey to where he is today in his career.

It gave him a glimpse into what his future could be like in Malaysia and he looks forward to returning home upon graduation.

Having been an intern at PwC before, Lee has experienced and seen the conducive environment the firm creates for learning and developing one's career. This will indeed bear

a positive influence on his decision to return to Malaysia to begin his career.

Ng was in Melbourne and Sydney to recruit Malaysian talent. He commented: "We met many bright and aspiring accountants in Melbourne and Sydney. The response received from the Malaysian students was very encouraging as the questions they asked indicated a greater interest to return to Malaysia upon graduation. It was good to collaborate with MICPA-ICAA to encourage Malaysian students to pursue their professional qualifications in Malaysia."

■ For details on the MICPA-ICAA Programme, call 03-2698 9622, e-mail micpa@micpa.com.my or visit www.micpa.com.my

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Award winners, Gold Medal winners and graduates of the MICPA-ICAA Programme recognised at the Excellence Awards event held recently.

Excellence rewarded

It was an exciting and joyous evening at the Excellence Awards event organised by The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia (ICAA) where high-achieving young Malaysians were honoured for their outstanding performance in their pursuit of a professional qualification in accounting.

The ceremony was held on Sept 26, with proud parents and friends attending to show their support for all 72 individuals who were recognised for their achievements that night.

Two categories of awards were presented, namely:

- Excellence Award for The Most Outstanding CPA Student – This award is bestowed to the best all-round CPA student who has recently completed the MICPA-ICAA professional examinations;
- Excellence Awards for Best Accounting Graduates – This award is presented to the top accounting graduate from each of the accredited local universities that offer the Bachelor of Accountancy qualification.

The Excellence Award for The Most Outstanding CPA Student 2011 was won by Tai June Lee who is currently working with PricewaterhouseCoopers Malaysia.

Lee enrolled as a candidate of the joint MICPA-ICAA programme in July 2009 and achieved the best performance in three out of five modules.

She was thereby awarded Gold Medals for the Financial Accounting and Reporting, Taxation and Management Accounting and Analysis modules in 2009 and 2010.

She has since been admitted as a MICPA member.

The 2011 Excellence Awards for Best Accounting Graduates were won by:

- Universiti Malaya (UM) Jolene Sew Peijin
- Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Harizah Burkhan
- Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) Darren Looi Fong Wei
- Universiti Multimedia Malaysia (MMU) Liew Yih Khai
- Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) Ainol Basirah Abdul Wahab
- Universiti Malaysia Terengganu Tan Kim Lee
- Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Khoo Yik Chou
- Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) Wan Haziq Naim bin Wan Johan
- Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (IIUM) Ahmad Syafik bin Abdul Aziz
- Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) Yip Mei Theen
- Monash University Sunway Campus Chong Ziyuan
- Curtin University Sarawak Lee Syin Kit

At the same ceremony, 23 graduates of the MICPA Programme (for the pre-2009 syllabus) who had passed the exam in the Nov 2010, May 2011 and Nov 2011 examinations were presented examination certificates by MICPA's president Ken Pushpanathan.

A total of 17 graduates of the joint MICPA-ICAA programme were also presented certificates by ICAA chief executive officer Lee White.

A total of 10 Gold Medals were presented to candidates who had obtained high distinctions in the MICPA Programme (pre-2009 syllabus) examinations in Nov 2010 and May 2011, as well as the joint MICPA-ICAA programme 2011 examinations (Term 2 and Term 3) and Term 1, 2012 examination. The winners are as follows:

- MICPA Programme (Pre-2009 syllabus)**
 - Nur Iryani Ahmad Badri – Ernst & Young Gold Medal for Advanced Auditing & Assurance (November 2010 examination)
 - Sharifah Marini Syed Ahmad Labib – Ernst & Young Gold Medal for Advanced Auditing & Assurance (May 2011 examination)
- MICPA-ICAA Programme**
 - Term 2, 2011 examination
 - Ong Vi Ling – BDO Gold Medal for Taxation
 - Wong Boon Kin – Ernst & Young Gold Medal for Audit & Assurance
 - Tan Pei Fen – PricewaterhouseCoopers Gold Medal for Ethics & Business Application
 - Term 3, 2011 examination
 - Low Choon Wei – Datuk Oh Chong Peng, Gold Medal for Financial Accounting & Reporting
 - Ng Sook Yin – Folks DFK & Co/Azman Wong Salleh & Co, Gold Medal for Management Accounting & Analysis
 - Term 1, 2012 examination
 - Ajrina Annuar – PricewaterhouseCoopers, Gold Medal for Ethics & Business Application

• Low Mei Yee (joint winner) – BDO, Gold Medal for Taxation

• Tan Teong Yu (joint winner) – BDO, Gold Medal for Taxation

• Vimalashankar Navarathnam (joint winner) – Ernst & Young, Gold Medal for Audit & Assurance

• Ng Sook Yin (joint winner) – Ernst & Young Gold Medal for Audit & Assurance

The MICPA-ICAA Programme provides practical training experience through the Approved Training Employers (ATEs) who are recognised by MICPA. An Appreciation Award was presented to British American Tobacco (Malaysia) Berhad and BAT Aspac Services Centre Sdn Bhd as newly-approved training organisations for the MICPA-ICAA Programme.

MICPA member and head of corporate finance Azizul Ahaari received the award on behalf of the organisations.

For details, call +03-2698 9622, email: micpa@micpa.com.my or log on to www.micpa.com.my