

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



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Rising from humble roots to award winner

THE Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) recently celebrated candidates and graduates of the MICPA-CAANZ programme at their Excellence Awards 2016/2017 ceremony held on Nov 2.

Graduates of the programme will qualify for memberships with both bodies, carrying the titles Certified Public Accountant, Malaysia (CPA(M)) and Chartered Accountant, Australia & New Zealand (CA(ANZ)).

The most prestigious award for the night, "The Most Outstanding CPA", was awarded to PwC senior assurance associate Sangeetha Selladurai.

Sangeetha was acknowledged as an exceptional student and graduate who has done well in the programme and career.

The nominees for the award were selected by their employers.

Sangeetha is forward-looking and constantly finding ways to improve herself. She comes from humble beginnings in Bahau, Negri Sembilan.

Early on, she struggled with her grades and found it difficult to adapt socially.

At the age of nine, she set her mind on building a strong academic background to create a better future for herself, and has never looked back.

She graduated in 2014, with distinction in Bachelor of Commerce in accounting and finance from the University of New South Wales, Australia.

During that time she excelled in her studies and in 2013, received The International High Achiever Scholarship from the School of Business. Upon returning home, she joined PwC and signed up for the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, and successfully completed it within two years while fulfilling the required three-year practical experience.

She chose to do the MICPA-CAANZ Programme due to the dual qualification and membership.

The programme also entitles members access to the Global Accounting Alliance, which expands career opportunities beyond borders.

The flexibility to practice internationally appeals to her greatly.

"The MICPA-CAANZ Programme, unlike other professional qualifications is designed to create well-rounded professionals," said



MICPA's Most Outstanding CPA 2016, Sangeetha with her father and brother after her win.

Sangeetha. "I found each programme module beneficial and has equipped me with problem-solving and analytical skills to crack real-world problems."

She explained that the programme structure is not limited to only exam-orientated assessments but also involves peer-learning, case studies and group presentations.

Sangeetha was also awarded a Certificate of Merit for the Taxation module in 2015.

She said she was honored to win the MICPA award and grateful to everyone who supported her through good and bad times.

Inspired by her parents Selladurai Karuppan and Saroja Appukuttan Nair, Sangeetha said she adopted their hard-working, diligent, persevering and respectful qualities and attributes.

"My father did not let his age dampen his dreams of completing his higher education, he became a proud degree holder at the age of 50," she said.

For those who are still deciding their

career pathway, Sangeetha's advice is to always make an informed decision.

Then step back and evaluate their preferred career paths and subsequently narrow down or broaden their options by assessing their strengths and weaknesses.

Attending career fairs and speaking to employers and career counsellors also helps.

She believes accounting graduates have excellent job prospects as every company needs one to summarise, interpret and communicate financial information about the business.

To become an investment banker, a CFO, a CEO or even an entrepreneur, accounting is a career path to venture into, as understanding the basic principles of accounting is vital in successfully growing a business.

■ For details on the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, visit <http://www.micpa.com.my>, e-mail info@micpa.com.my or call the marketing department at 03-2698 9622.

Rising from humble roots to award winner

The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) recently celebrated candidates and graduates of their joint professional qualification – the MICPA-CAANZ Programme at the Excellence Awards 2016/2017 ceremony held on November 2, 2017. Graduates of the Programme will qualify for memberships with both bodies, carrying the titles *Certified Public Accountant, Malaysia (CPA(M))* and *Chartered Accountant, Australia & New Zealand (CA(ANZ))*.

The most prestigious award for the night, ‘The Most Outstanding CPA’ is awarded to an exceptional student and graduate who has done well in the Programme, as well as in their career, as they are nominated for the award by their employers. It was a proud moment for Sangeetha Selladurai, a Senior Assurance Associate at PwC who was awarded The Most Outstanding CPA 2016.

Sangeetha is a forward-looking young lady, constantly finding ways to improve herself. Her story is one of humble beginnings, coming from the small town of Bahau. In her early school years after moving to the city, she struggled with her grades and found it difficult to adapt socially. It was at the tender age of nine that she realized she could not change who she was or where she came from but she could certainly decide who she was going to be. And so she set her mind on building up a strong academic background to create a better future for herself and never looked back.

She graduated with Distinction in Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and Finance in 2014 from the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia. She excelled in her studies and in 2013, received The International High Achiever Scholarship from UNSW’s School of Business. Upon returning home, she joined PwC and signed up for the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, successfully completing the Programme within 2 years whilst simultaneously fulfilling the required 3-year practical experience.

She chose to do the MICPA–CAANZ Programme mainly because of the dual qualification and membership. The Programme also entitles members access to the Global Accounting Alliance (GAA) which expands one’s career opportunities beyond borders. The flexibility to practice internationally appeals to her greatly.

On her experience doing the Programme, she shares, “The MICPA-CAANZ Programme, unlike other professional qualifications is designed to create well-rounded professionals. I found each module in this Programme equally beneficial and has equipped me with problem-solving and analytical skills to crack real world problems as the structure of the program is not limited to only exam-orientated assessments but also involved peer learning, case studies and group presentations. I enjoyed the final module of the Programme – Capstone the most, and it turned out to be particularly helpful in preparing me for a more senior role at work.” Among her other achievements, Sangeetha was awarded a Certificate of Merit for the Taxation module in 2015.

It was a tense few minutes at the Excellence Awards ceremony, awaiting the announcement on the Most Outstanding CPA winner. “There are no words to describe how I felt when my name was announced; feeling overjoyed would probably be an understatement. The sight of my father and brother jumping in excitement as my name was announced will forever be etched in my memory. I am extremely honored to have won this MICPA award and am truly grateful to everyone who has stood by me through good and bad times.”

“Till today, nothing and no one inspires me more than my parents, Selladurai Karuppan and Saroja Appukkuttan Nair. Hard work, diligence, perseverance and respect are all the qualities and attributes I have adopted from them. They did not have the privilege of completing their tertiary education but

that did not stop them from educating and providing a better future for their children. My father did not let his age dampen his dreams of completing his higher education, he became a proud degree holder at the age of 50. With my strongest role models by my side at all times, success was inevitable. The MICPA award is just as much their achievement as it is mine.” said overjoyed Sangeetha.

For those who are still deciding their career pathway, Sangeetha’s advice is to always make an informed decision - take a step back and evaluate one’s preferred career paths and subsequently narrow down or broaden their options by assessing their strengths and weaknesses. Attending career fairs and speaking to employers and career counsellors would also help.

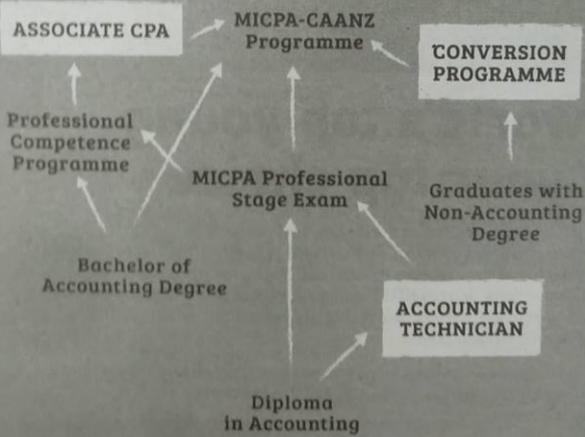
She believes accounting graduates have excellent job prospects. Every company needs an accountant to summarize, interpret and communicate financial information about the business. If you dream about becoming an investment banker, a CFO, a CEO or even an entrepreneur, accounting is certainly a career path to venture into as understanding the basic principles of accounting is vital in successfully growing a business.

For more info on the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, please contact the Marketing Department (Tel: 03-2698 9622), email info@micpa.com.my or visit our website at www.micpa.com.my.

ACCOUNTING IS FOR EVERYONE



CPA (M) & CA (ANZ)



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