



The Chancellory



UNIVERSITI SAINS ISLAM MALAYSIA  
جامعة العلوم الإسلامية الماليزية  
ISLAMIC SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYSIA

Centre for Strategic Development & Corporate Relations  
Islamic Science University of Malaysia (USIM),  
Bandar Baru Nilai, 71800 Nilai, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia  
Tel : 06-798 6002 / 8026 Fax : 06-798 8041

# USIM

## PROMOTES MULTILINGUALISM FOR COMPETITIVE EDGE



USIM's Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Shukor Hj. Husin at launch of Language Support Program

Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) is set to make its presence felt in the Malaysian higher education scene. In line with the Government's human capital development strategy, USIM puts great emphasis on language proficiency which adds value to the quality of its graduates. This will enhance their marketability and employability. Language proficiency is an integral part of communication skill, which is the foundation for the other soft skills like teamwork, management and leadership.

Language proficiency enhancement is embedded in the teaching and learning delivery at USIM. At USIM knowledge is integrated with Islamic tenets and teachings. Indeed, one of the university's objectives is to produce graduates who can be an authority in their

need to undergo a transition from a Malay-medium school environment to an English-medium and Arabic-medium academic world. The new environment can be quite daunting to many. These programmes provide positive exposure, challenging, and competitive environment for the students to learn and practise English and Arabic. Language activities are organised for this purpose. In these activities students can exercise their creativity in learning and using English and Arabic. In addition, to complement the ELSP, USIM also offers Intensive MUET Workshops (see picture) to help students prepare for their MUET exams to improve on their earlier results.

Apart from language support programmes,

respective specialisations and, at the same time highly proficient in the English language, Arabic and other foreign languages. USIM's distinctive language philosophy is realised through various policies and strategies. Traditional Islamic studies are mainly conducted using Arabic. Contemporary and professional fields such as medicine, dentistry, science and technology and economics are mainly conducted in English. All students are required to take Arabic and English courses, and to participate in language support programmes, to enhance their language proficiency.

USIM's unique language support programmes are divided into English Language Support Programme (ELSP) and Arabic Language Support Programme (ALSP). Three Language Support programmes are designed for the first year students consisting of 76 hours for each ELSP and ALSP. Comprising 3 stages, the appreciation stage in LSP1, the development stage in LSP2 and the application stage in LSP3, these programmes are scheduled throughout the academic year. The LSP is inspired by the fact that USIM's students



MUET Workshop in session

USIM's English and Arabic Units also provide first rate English and Arabic proficiency courses, together with English for Specific Purposes (ESP) and Arabic for Specific Purposes (ASP) courses. The ESP and ASP courses are designed to arm students with the necessary language skills to master their academic discipline as well as their work environment later on. Generally, USIM's students would have gained 126 contact hours (formal instructions) of English and Arabic and 76 hours of LSP, totalling up to 202 hours by the end of their first year.

The Faculty of Major Languages also offers three levels of Mandarin courses as electives beginning first semester session 2006/2007. A number of students from the Faculty of Major Languages who have taken and passed the three Mandarin courses will be sent to Xi'an International Studies University in China next year on a credit transfer programme.

Multilingualism is imperative in this highly globalised world. It gives graduates the competitive edge. USIM aspires and commits the resources to meet the demands of the market for skilled and knowledgeable workers in the fields of tourism, banking, trade and finance among others.



Participants at an English enhancement programme