

# Boost your English proficiency

**S**TUDENTS applying for Universiti Putra Malaysia's (UPM) undergraduate and postgraduate programmes can now take up the Certified Intensive English Programme (CIEP) from ELS Language Centres (ELS), which is recognised as proof of sufficient English language proficiency for admissions.

UPM vice-chancellor Datuk Ir. Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi said, "I'm pleased that UPM has collaborated with ELS in providing the English programme to potential UPM students. ELS was chosen as it has more than 45 years of experience in helping students to improve their English."

ELS opened a centre on UPM's campus, which is the first on-campus centre in a university outside the United States. ELS US president Mark Harris said, "At ELS, we take pride in our



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relationship with a respectable university such as UPM to provide a direct pathway to further education for our students.

"The Certificate of Completion of ELS CIEP is similar to TOEFL (Test Of English as a Foreign Language) and IELTS (International English Language Testing System). It is recognised and accepted by UPM as one of the three admission standards for proof of English language proficiency."

SPM or STPM graduates who want to improve their language proficiency have a solution at ELS Language Centres. The CIEP can be used as an alternative to the TOEFL and IELTS as a university entry requirement and is a fast-track to English enhancement when preparing for university studies.

The UPM-ELS partnership started nearly 20 years ago, with the co-organising of MICELT conferences (Malaysia International Centre of English Language Teaching), which is the leading English language teaching conference in the region.

Since then, UPM and ELS have also collaborated on numerous community-oriented projects for English teachers and schools.

"It is through the various collaborative projects that both institutions (UPM and ELS) realise the common passion for English language development," said Harris.

The CIEP programme consists of 10 levels. Each level spans four weeks.

These 10 levels are split into three main proficiency levels and students need to take a placement test to determine their proficiency level. Students will learn how to improve on four aspects, Structure & Speaking Practice, Reading & Writing, Skills Enhancement and E-learning. UPM is a leading research-intensive public university located in Serdang, Selangor and was

formerly known as Universiti Pertanian Malaysia. UPM offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses with a research focus on agricultural sciences and its related fields.

UPM strives to enhance and strengthen its academic and research collaboration. It has taken various initiatives to complement its educational excellence.

It also has collaborative arrangements with various parties to enhance its research and academic development as well as providing consultancy services.

ELS Language Centres Malaysia (ELS) is a franchise of the US-based ELS Language Centres. Established in 1990, ELS Malaysia has since grown to six English language training centres strategically located throughout Malaysia (Subang Jaya, KLCC, Bukit Bintang, Johor Baru, Penang and UPM).

ELS Malaysia offers qualified and professionally trained instructors. It also offers various courses to suit the needs of students such as university or college preparation courses, career advancement courses, fast track Certified Intensive English Programmes and the Communicative English Programme.

ELS Malaysia is registered and approved by the Ministry of Higher Education as an institute of higher learning and is accepted by the Ministry of Human Resource as a training centre. It has also gained the approval of the Malaysian government to recruit and accept international students.

With nearly 100 centres worldwide, ELS Language Centres have taught English to over two million students from more than 140 countries.

● For more information, look out for the ELS Malaysia advertisement in this *StarSpecial*.