

# Business school receives prestigious accreditation

**G**OING through six years of constant assessment has finally paid off for the Putra Business School (Putra) of Universiti Putra Malaysia as it is now an accredited member of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Presently Putra is the first business school in the country and the sixth university in Southeast Asia to be bestowed this prestigious accolade.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin who was present at the celebratory dinner said that the accreditation is a testament that Putra is among the best business schools, both regionally and internationally. He expressed hope that UPM would take the lead in guiding the development of other business schools across Malaysia, after being presented with a token of appreciation from AACSB president and chief executive officer John J. Fernandes.

Putra intends to pave the way in the country's transformation agenda in business management by reintroducing the concept of 'human leaders', as there is currently a great need to better business management education.

Putra Business School President, Professor Arfah Salleh said that Putra will offer a unique view on business management as it combines spirituality with science. She added that it is important to bring back the appropriate philosophy and moral awareness into business management education in order to address the flawed business practices of today.

Putra was also endorsed by the Ministry of Higher Education as an autonomous business school during the certificate presentation. This endorsement allows the school freedom in both student and faculty selection.

Vice-Chancellor of UPM, Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi said that UPM hopes to build more programmes that are industry-based with faculty members drawn from industry experts as opposed to those from the academic community adding that Putra intends to bring the business world into the classroom.



(from left): **John J. Fernandes**, President and CEO of Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business; **Datuk Dr Radin Umar Radin Sohadi**, Vice-Chancellor of UPM; and **Professor Arfah Salleh**, Putra Business School President speaking to reporters after the accreditation ceremony.