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Five Malaysian varsities in top 1,000 list

UNIVERSITI Malaya (UM) adds another feather to its cap as it makes its way up another international university ranking.

The nation's oldest university is now ranked 442 in the world, according to the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) 2019-2020 list of the top 2,000 universities.

It was ranked 451 in the previous edition.

But results have been mixed for Malaysian universities in this year's rankings, as only two of the top five institutions improved compared to last year.

The other institution to go up the rankings is Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), which went from 826 to 796.

The number of Malaysian universities in the top 1,000 remains at five, the same as last year (*see table*).

The other universities are Universiti Sains Malaysia (688), Universiti Putra Malaysia (798) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (949).

CWUR president Dr Nadim Mahassen said: "Funding was cru-

cial if the government wanted local institutions to be able to compete globally."

"Without sustained strong investment, Malaysian universities face the possibility of declining in the future," he added.

Based in the United Arab Emirates, CWUR's rankings grade universities on seven factors. These are quality of education (25%), alumni employment (25%), quality of faculty (10%), research output (10%), high-quality publications (10%), influence (10%), and citations (10%).

The rankings are unique in that they measure the teaching and training of students as well as faculty prestige and research performance without relying on surveys and university data submissions, he added.

The methodology has been

Malaysian universities in CWUR

World University Rankings 2019-2020

Institution	2019-2020 rank	2018-2019 rank
Universiti Malaya (UM)	442	451
Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)	688	566
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	796	826
Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)	798	742
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)	949	915
Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM)	1,503	Not ranked
International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)	1,604	Not ranked
Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP)	1,822	Not ranked

Source: Center for World University Rankings (CWUR)

slightly enhanced this year to give equal emphasis to the learning environment and research.

Twenty thousand universities worldwide have been analysed, and the annual ranking - now in its

eighth year, has been expanded to list the top 2,000 institutions, up from 1,000. It now features 99 countries and territories, up from 61, making it the largest academic ranking of global universities.

Harvard University ranks as the top global university for the eighth year in a row.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology was in second place ahead of Stanford University, while the University of Cambridge and University of Oxford held steady in fourth and fifth.

In Asia, the University of Tokyo was in 13th place followed by Kyoto University (21), Seoul National University (33), Weizmann Institute of Science (58), and Peking University (59). China is the second most represented country in the top 2,000, with 249 institutions, ahead of Japan's 130.

The CWUR is a consulting organisation providing policy advice, strategic insights and consulting services to governments and universities to improve educational and research outcomes.