

## **Double Degree and Short Term Programmes at the University of Malaya**

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### **ABSTRACT**

In its fifty-year history of awarding degrees at its Kuala Lumpur campus, the University of Malaya has produced over 120,000 graduates in various fields at the Bachelor, Master and Doctoral levels. As a publicly-funded, research-intensive university the University of Malaya has the responsibility of providing a sound, yet modern, educational experience for its students.

In the context of globalization, internationalization has become the norm. The University of Malaya is in the process of increasing the number of international students, international faculty and exchange students at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In addition, the University of Malaya has also recently embarked on student exchange programmes as well as establishing double degree programmes with some partner universities. This paper will report on the achievements and challenges faced in pursuing these initiatives.



## DOUBLE DEGREE AND SHORT TERM PROGRAMMES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

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## MALAYSIA: Demographics

**Population - 27,544,000**

**Malays** - ≈ **61%**  
**Chinese** - ≈ **23%**  
**Indians** - ≈ **7%**  
**Indigenous groups** ≈ **9%**



## GOVERNMENT EXPECTATIONS BY 2020

- 50% cohort of 17-23 years old participate in tertiary education (36% in year 2007)
- 33% workforce with tertiary qualification (22% in year 2007)
- Critical mass of researchers - 100 RSE per 10,000 workforce (30 per 10,000 in 2007)



## HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN MALAYSIA (2008)

Types of Institutions	Number
Public Universities	20
Polytechnics	24
Community Colleges	37
Private University Colleges/Universities	37
Private Colleges	487
TOTAL	605

**Origins – in Singapore (1905)**

- Kuala Lumpur campus (1958)

**University of Malaya**

- comprehensive, research-intensive
- 12 faculties, 2 academies, 3 centres
- ~ 45% of courses taught in English

**Tuition fees (USD/year)**

**Undergraduates:**

Local ~ 600.00  
International ~ 1,800.00

**Postgraduate:**

Local ~ 2,100.00  
International ~ 3,500.00

**Undergraduates:**

local 16,879  
international 907 **(5.4%)**

**Postgraduates:**

local 8,112  
international 2,591 **(24.0%)**

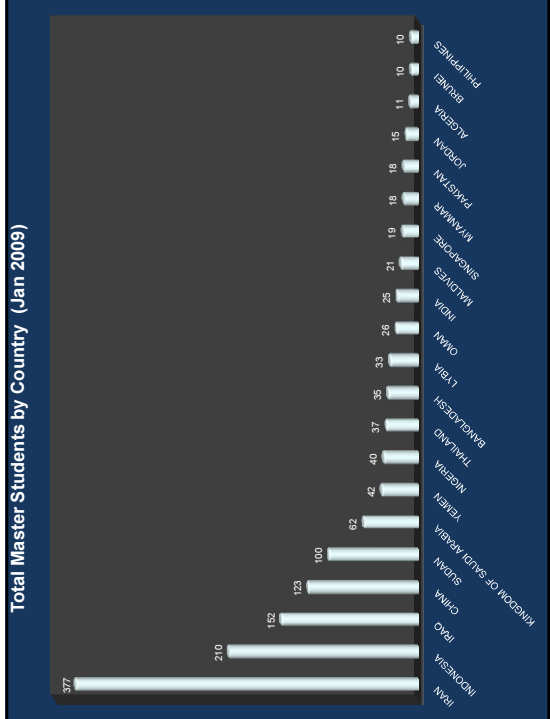
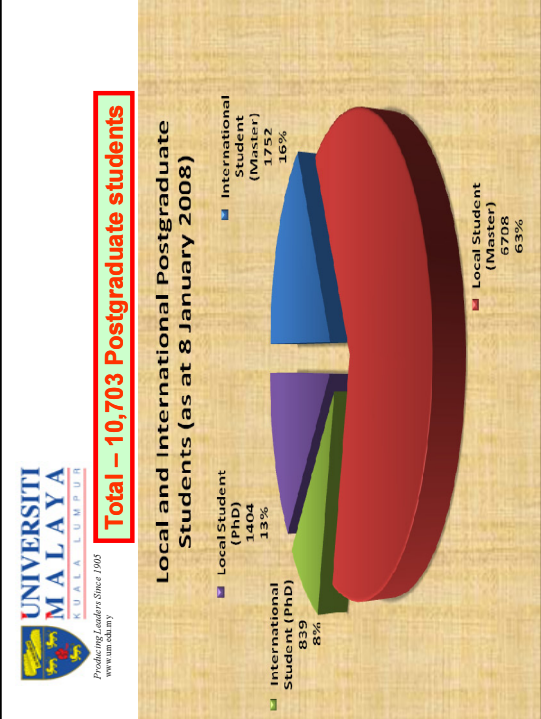
***University Admissions Policy for  
Undergraduate International Students***

- 5% of total enrollment i.e. 5% of 18,000 or 900 students
- Note: Increase to 10% beginning 2008/2009 academic session
- 5% of annual admissions i.e. 5% of 4,500 or 225
- Reduce by 10% undergraduate students every year

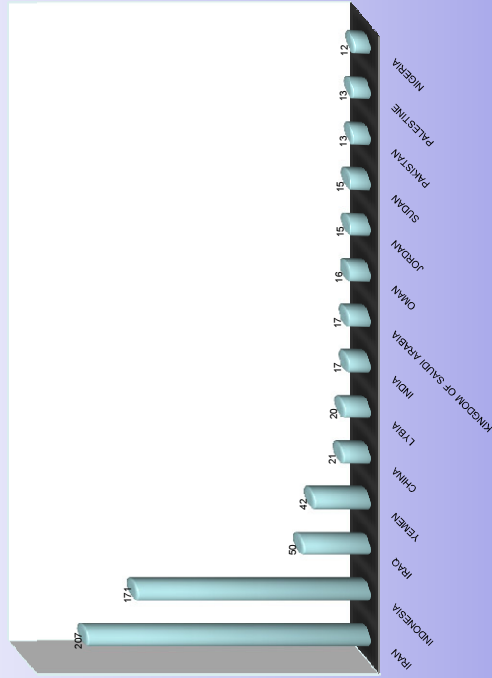
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## University Admissions Policy for Postgraduate International Students

- Increase by 10% every year
- 50% Graduate: 50% undergraduate by 2012
- 50% International: 50% local by 2012



Total PhD Students by Country (Jan 2009)



## STUDENT EXCHANGE Some Partner Universities

- Beijing Foreign Studies University
- University of Southern California (San Diego)
- Inje University
- Woosuk University
- University of Sydney
- Copenhagen Business School
- University Medical Centre Utrecht



## STUDENT EXCHANGE Academic Session

08/09 **07/08**

INBOUND	315	276
~ 40 Partner Universities		
OUTBOUND	168	84
~ 30 Partner Universities		



## EXAMPLE OF STUDENT EXCHANGE

### BEIJING FOREIGN STUDIES UNIVERSITY

- BFSU sends ~ 20 – 25 students to UM per year for 2 semesters to study Bahasa Malaysia.
- UM sends ~ 45 – 50 students to BFSU per year for 8 weeks to study Mandarin.
- Exchange since 2007/2008.



## DOUBLE DEGREES Partner Universities

- University of Sydney
- University of Melbourne
- The Conference Des Presidents D'Universite (CPU)
- Imperial College London
- University of Nottingham



## JOINT RESEARCH PhD UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

- 4 academic years ( 3 sems UM, 5 sems USyd)
- 1 supervisor from each university
  - Minimum stay in each country is 30%
  - Student pays local tuition fees
  - Exempt from fees of partner university
  - Single degree certificate bearing names of both universities



## FUNDING MECHANISMS

- Sultan Azlan Shah Mobility Fund (USD 9 million)
- POSCO Asia Fellowship
- JICA
- JSPS
- Panasonic Scholarship
- Korea Foundation
- Japan Foundation



## CHALLENGES FACED

- Credit Transfer issues
- Calendar Year/Semester mismatch
- Visa/Immigration hindrances
- Infrastructure deficiencies
- Local student apprehension
- Funding



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**THANK YOU**

