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UPM offers grads choices

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UNIVERSITI Putra Malaysia's (UPM) Graduate School of Management is offering a unique programme for graduates wishing to obtain an MBA or MSc degree, and a PhD.

Its dean Associate Professor Zainal Abidin Kidam said UPM currently offered two programmes - the MBA (Management) and MSc (Management, Accounting and Administration) and another programme at PhD-level.

The Master in Business Administration is a more professionally-oriented programme while the Master in Science (Management) is more for academic-oriented students as it focuses more on thesis, research and other academic endeavours.

"Tutors who are academically inclined normally enrol for the MSc, and not MBA.

"After obtaining an MSc degree, they can proceed towards a PhD."

Both MBA and MSc programmes emphasise management and administration.

Under the Euro-Asia MBA Programme, students could receive two degrees from UPM and a French university which was internationally recognised.

"Students who enrol for this programme at the Graduate School of Management, will receive two MBA degrees from UPM and the French university who are joint collaborators of the programme."

UPM also provides training for academics and professionals doing research and writing their thesis.

Its Graduate School of Management was unique among most institutions of higher learning in the sense that it was the only one focused solely on graduate programmes at the Masters and PhD levels.

The graduate school offers a trimester system with three intakes for the MBA programme each year.

Students can enrol for courses on a part-time or full-time basis.

To date, there are 300 MBA full-time and part-time students enrolled at UPM, plus another 70 MSc students and about 80 PhD students.

"We offer not fewer than 60 places for our MBA programme every trimester."

Based on a recent Asiaweek best graduate school rating for MBA programmes in Asian countries, he said its Graduate School of Management's full-time MBA programme was ranked 36th, while its part-time programme was ranked 21 in Asia.

"We will continue to upgrade the quality of education here in line with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's vision, to become a world-class university by 2010."