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New website for tertiary education

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KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Those in search of tertiary education can now turn to RiteUni-.com for assistance in selecting the institution of their choice.

RiteUni (<http://www.riteuni-.com>) acts as a virtual academic adviser by providing information and assessment to assist users in selecting a suitable institution for further studies.

The website was launched today at the Multimedia University (MMU) by university chancellor Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

The wife of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said RiteUni would contribute to the community by developing wholesome individuals.

"It is a webbased education portal to assist students, especially those who have doubt as to what lies ahead of their future, in bringing them from the obscure to the enlightened horizon," she said.

RiteUni offers conventional advice to students by providing information on local universities and other institutions, loans and scholarships, courses of study and career opportunities. It also houses a feature to help students determine what degree programme they would be best suited for.

"The long-term goal is to develop citizens instilled with intellectualism, professionalism and self-discipline with the common core of humanistic and ethical values," said Dr Siti Hasmah.

She added that MMU had been actively involved in narrowing the gap between academia and industry, and RiteUni was one such example, with MMU acting as its secretariat.

RiteUni is the brainchild of four MMU students, and took two years to complete it.

Founders Alex Yeow Tee Guan, Sean Soh Soon Kiat, Wesley Lee Kok Chiew and Alice Yeoh Siew Li, all 23, were keen to develop a business idea and together came up with the concept of the portal.

"We want to help students understand themselves better before choosing a field of study," said Yeow.

Being friends made the association a natural choice, since Soh, Lee and Yeoh had known one another from student days at MMU's faculty of management, while Yeow, a current MMU master's degree student, is an old friend of Soh and Lee.

MMU Centre for Commercialisation and Technopreneur Development head Chong Siong Choy said RiteUni was the second start-up affiliated with the university, the first launched last November as a collaboration between four students.

He cited an example in the United States where the economy of Silicon Valley, California was dependent on graduates trained at Stanford University, which had an entrepreneur programme.

"Our dreams of producing a local Bill Gates is one step closer to reality," said Chong.