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Many milestones recorded at UTM

FROM its start as Institut Teknologi Kebangsaan 31 years ago, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia has grown into an important institution which has produced more than 80,000 graduates.

ITK - which was formed in 1972 to promote and develop higher education in science, engineering, technology and architecture - gained university status three years later and was renamed as UTM.

It has recorded several milestones since its inception, including gaining Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) status in August last year. It has 10 faculties, a Diploma Studies Centre, a Graduate Studies School, a Bureau of Innovation and Consultancy and more than 30 centres of excellence.

It has a main campus in Skudai, Johor, spread over 1,177ha.

There is a branch campus at Jalan Semarak in Kuala Lumpur, also known as the City Campus.

In line with the "Discovery University" theme, which was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in 1999, UTM conducts research for the benefit the society and country.

Its lecturers have won awards at international level including at the International Exhibition of Invention New Techniques and Products in Geneva and the Khawarizmi International Award. On the local front, its lecturers have won awards in the National Design Awards (Anugerah Pereka Cipta Negara) and the National Young Scientists Awards.

In 1999, it won the Prime Minister's Quality Award for introducing well-managed programmes, which turned it into an important academic and technological centre for the country.

Its library, Perpustakaan Sultanah Zanariah, the Civil Engineering Faculty, the Management and Human Resources Development Faculty, the Education Faculty, Built Environment Faculty, the Research Management Centre and the Bureau of Innovation and Consultancy have received ISO 9000 certification.

Its ability to formulate creative and innovative ideas have led it to come up with new products in line with efforts to turn it into a centre of excellence.

It has established the University-Industry Technology Advancement Programme (UNITAP) and launched the cyber campus concept to promote digital and information usage in an integrated manner.

The year 2000 marked UTM's entry on the world map when it started establishing links with institutions such as Oxford University, Cambridge University, Tsinghua University, and DeNantes University.

UTM's vision now is to become a "A World Class University" by 2010.

For details, log on to: www.utm.my