

**UiTM TEAMS UP WITH OCBC BANK  
FOR INTERNSHIP TRAINING INITIATIVE**

Shah Alam, 7 February, 2007 – Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) is teaming up with OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (OCBC Bank) to provide selected students at the university with sustained on-the-job training in banking for the entire duration of their course.

The partnership, which was sealed today at a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signing ceremony, marks the first time the university has ever teamed up with a bank on such a sustained basis.

Speaking at the ceremony, UiTM's Vice Chancellor Dato Seri Professor Dr Ibrahim Abu Shah said the initiative would create the platform for its staff and students to meaningfully develop their understanding of the banking industry over a longer period of time.

"We are pleased to have, in the past, worked with key organizations from various industries to ensure that UiTM is kept abreast with the latest developments in the corporate world. Today, I am pleased that we are able to enter, for the first time, into such a sustained partnership with a financial institution, OCBC Bank.

"UiTM is a dynamic university, built on a tradition that dates back 50 years. It is an institution that empowers students with the necessary knowledge and skills to become an asset to the nation. We are committed to advancing our knowledge base within the ever-changing landscape of the business and corporate world. This MOU paves the way for the university to enhance the skills of both students and staff through hands-on experience and information sharing," he said.

The collaboration will focus on two key areas: for OCBC Bank to develop and hone UiTM students' skills through on-the-job training and by working together with the university's staff to conduct research and industrial studies that focus on banking.

OCBC Bank Chairman, Tan Sri Dato Nasruddin Bahari said the Bank was deeply honoured to have been selected by UiTM for "this important training initiative."

"We are pleased to have formally become part of UiTM's family of partners today, through this inaugural programme. As an established financial institution, we look forward to the opportunity to share the knowledge and experience that we have gleaned – through more than seven decades of service to the community – with students and staff of UiTM who are keen to learn," he said.

Witnessing the MOU signing ceremony were UiTM's Dean of the Faculty of Business Management, Associate Professor Dr Zaini Abdullah; and OCBC Bank's Head of Consumer Financial Services, Mr Charles Sik.

Dr Zaini said the Faculty of Business Management, which is the primary unit of the university that works with OCBC Bank, is the largest faculty in UiTM with more than 19,000 students.

"With so many students coming through our doors every year, we strive to produce knowledgeable human capital to cater to the demands of an industrialised nation such as ours. To achieve this, we are always looking to develop integrated courses through an effective syllabus that is steeped in theoretical know-how and liberally laced with practical experience," he said.

Mr Charles Sik said OCBC Bank is looking forward to using its all-round experience and expertise in banking – covering both conventional and Islamic banking – to forge ahead in the newly established collaboration.

“This is a commitment we are both happy and honoured to make. The first batch of UiTM students from the Faculty of Business Management has just begun its attachment with OCBC Bank. Through the attachment, they are expected to apply their theoretical understanding and gain the required experience in banking as a profession in order to assist them when making career decisions after graduation,” he said.

The Faculty is also looking to expand this collaboration later to include post-graduate students and also to engage OCBC Bank to present updates and share best practices in the banking industry.

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### **About OCBC Bank**

Singapore's longest established local bank, OCBC Bank, currently has assets of S\$144 billion and a network of over 370 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong SAR, Brunei, Japan, Australia, UK and USA. This network includes more than 250 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by OCBC Bank's subsidiary, PT Bank NISP. OCBC Bank and its banking subsidiaries offer a wide range of specialist financial services, from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to global treasury and stockbroking services to meet the needs of its customers across communities.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia, in terms of assets and market share, and its asset management subsidiary, Lion Capital Management, is one of the largest asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Additional information may be found at [www.ocbc.com](http://www.ocbc.com).