

**INAUGURAL OCBC INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME FOR TARC STUDENTS WELL-RECEIVED**

Kuala Lumpur, 6 May 2008 – OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad's inaugural internship programme involving Tunku Abdul Rahman College (TARC) has proven to be a hit among its Business School students.

According to the 12 selected students, aged between 21 and 23, OCBC Bank was their choice due to its solid legacy in both Malaysia and Singapore and its commitment to training. The 3-month attachment at the Bank provided them with hands-on experience, working with one of Asia's largest and most respected banks with group assets exceeding S\$175 billion.

"OCBC Bank was my first choice when thinking about an internship programme and I feel fortunate to have been selected to participate as the programme was both comprehensive and well thought-out. Most of all, it gave me positive insights into what working at a bank is like. I'll definitely recommend this programme to my juniors," said Lim Kim Thai, an Advanced Diploma in Business Economics student who hails from Selangor.

According to Jeffrey Chew, Deputy CEO of OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad, the pioneer internship programme with TARC is in keeping with the Bank's mission to help individuals to gain access to knowledge of the banking and financial arena in a disciplined and structured manner.

"The internship programme was put together to develop talent as part of OCBC Bank's human capital seeding program, which is in line with the government's call to provide college students with a platform for hands-on experience and to develop skilled workers for the future. Our approach is to provide them with the experience, and then leave them to decide thereafter if working at a bank would indeed be their cup of tea," he said.

The 12 students were guided by senior executives of the Bank from February to April. The programme included classroom teaching and sharing sessions, mentoring and coaching, educational tours and attachments at various departments within the organisation. Their stint culminated in project assignments and a final presentation to a committee comprising senior OCBC Bank personnel to ensure the students internalised all they had learned.

“I’m glad that from the first day itself we were well taken care of and brought to meet the various heads of departments. It was exciting to make the trip to Cyberjaya to visit the Contact Centre, followed by a visit to the OCBC Bank branch in Puchong – where we not only witnessed how the tellers and financial consultants handled their daily tasks but were given an opportunity to serve the walk-in customers as well,” 21-year-old Kedah-born Choong Chii Yang, majoring in banking and finance said.

The interns were placed under the Consumer Financial Services division of OCBC Bank and were provided with exposure to various departments such as Mobile Banking, Direct Sales, Mortgage Sales, Customer Experience and Wealth Management Department as well. Upon graduation from the internship programme on 30 April, each student was presented with a certificate for their commitment and participation in the programme.

Ms. Kho Sok Kee, Head of TARC School of Business Studies, said that she was pleased with the role the Bank played in preparing the students for a potential future in banking.

“The internship programme has clearly been fruitful. Over such a short period, I can see that my students are more confident and have developed good people skills as well...in addition to knowing a lot more about how banking works,” she said.

OCBC Bank has a similar tie-up with Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) whereby students are attached to OCBC Bank’s Bumiputra Development division. Both internship programmes will continue to operate annually to expose tertiary education students to the banking industry.

The basic criteria for students to participate in the internship programmes include good academic results (normally a CGPA of at least 3.0 would be required) and

involvement in extra-curricular activities. They must also be Malaysian students in their pre-final or final year studies.

For more information, log on to [www.ocbc.com.my](http://www.ocbc.com.my)

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## **About OCBC Bank**

Singapore's longest established local bank, OCBC Bank, currently has assets of S\$175 billion and a network of over 460 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong SAR, Taiwan, Brunei, Myanmar, Japan, Korea, Australia, UK and USA. This network includes more than 350 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).

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