

Rating of excellence

THOUGH the fourth and most recent Rating for Higher Education Institutions in Malaysia (Setara) was released in 2013, it is still being used by participating universities and university colleges in Malaysia as it offers prospective students, parents, teachers and academic society an indication of the quality of teaching and learning at the undergraduate level.

This stringent evaluation took

into consideration three generic domains:

- **Input** – Addressed faculty talent, physical and financial resources, and governance
- **Process** – Focused on aspects pertaining to the quality of the curriculum
- **Output** – Focused on the quality of graduates (in terms of graduate marketability, graduate attributes and employer feedback) and graduate satisfaction

Upon completion of gathering the required information, universities and university colleges that chose to participate in this exercise were classified into six different tiers, Tier 1: Weak, Tier 2: Satisfactory, Tier 3: Good, Tier 4: Very Good, Tier 5: Excellent and Tier 6: Outstanding.

Forty-two of the 53 participating higher learning institutions in Setara'13 were awarded a Tier 5 rating while the remaining

obtained a Tier 4 rating, marking a gradual improvement from the previous evaluations conducted in 2007, 2009 and 2011.

While there has been a general increase in the number of Tier 4 and Tier 5 institutions in 2013, the results prove Malaysia still has a long way to go before it can be recognised as a world-leading tertiary education destination.

The absence of "Outstanding" institutions means universities must not rest on their laurels and be content with attracting only

students from South-East Asian countries but go further to reassess their academic, physical and corporate structures.

There is yet to be official word on when the next Setara rating will be conducted.

However, it is believed that irrespective of the mechanisms of a new Higher Education Ministry evaluation programme, universities will gain helpful feedback to improve on their programmes and product delivery as well as make inroads at the international level.

TIER 5: EXCELLENT

Code	Name of institution	Code	Name of institution
2	Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation	1	Universiti of Malaya
2	Binary University of Management and Entrepreneurship	1	Universiti Malaysia Pahang
2	Curtin University Sarawak Malaysia	1	Universiti Malaysia Perlis
2	Cyberjaya University College Of Medical Sciences	1	Universiti Malaysia Sabah
2	Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur	1	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
2	International Medical University	1	Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
2	Inti International University	1	Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris
2	Management and Science University	1	Universiti Putra Malaysia
2	Monash University Malaysia	1	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia
2	Multimedia University	1	Universiti Sains Malaysia
2	Nilai University	2	Universiti Selangor
2	Open University Malaysia	1	Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka
2	SEGi University	1	Universiti Teknologi Malaysia
2	Sunway University	1	Universiti Teknologi Mara
2	Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus	2	Universiti Teknologi Petronas
2	Taylor's University	2	Universiti Tenaga Nasional
2	The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus	2	Universiti Tun Abdul Razak
2	UCSI University	1	Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia
1	Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia	2	Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman
2	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	1	Universiti Utara Malaysia
2	Universiti Kuala Lumpur	2	Wawasan Open University

Code classification: 1 - Public institution

2 - Private institution

List of institutions arranged alphabetically with a Tier 5: Excellent Setara rating.

