

Wong received an award for being the most deserving overseas student and scoring the highest marks in Obstetrics and Gynaecology while finishing her degree in the University of Dundee, Scotland.



Chance to study abroad

MANY students dream of studying overseas. For some, that dream is possible with university programmes that allow them to study part of their degree in their home country before, or after, going overseas.

This was what happened to Wong Kit Yeng.

She started her medical studies at the International Medical University (IMU) in Malaysia in 2011 and then transferred to the University of Dundee, Scotland three years later to complete her degree.

Wong believed IMU prepares students well for transition to the United Kingdom.

"The preclinical phase equipped us with vast amount of knowledge particularly in basic sciences," said Wong. "I was fortunate to be in one of the pioneer batches whereby communication skills and early clinical exposure were given more emphasis in the curriculum."

She was also fortunate to have a number of friends transferring with her.

"I knew some of my batch-mates prior to going to Dundee. We organised regular gatherings for birthdays, Chinese New Year and Christmas celebrations while at Dundee.

"We try to support and be there for each other. I am grateful to be able to maintain and develop friendship with all of them.

"We also received great support from our IMU seniors in Dundee. We tried our best to continue the tradition in supporting juniors transferring from IMU each year."

When she first arrived at Dundee, Wong faced challenges understanding the Scottish accent and adapting to the local culture.

"Communication skills are greatly emphasised in the UK curriculum. The bridging course organised by University of Dundee was useful in helping us during the transition period."

Wong has since graduated with her degree with commendation, received an award for being the most deserving overseas student and scoring the highest marks in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

"I was awarded the Famuyiwa Prize and Margaret Fairlie Prize for my achievement in Dundee. I

try my best in everything I do.

"I have been fortunate to be trained under good supervisors and received support from the medical staff throughout my studies. I am grateful for the opportunities to participate in projects and attend regional and international conferences."

IMU students studying medicine can choose to complete the entire degree in IMU or study the first two and a half years of the degree in IMU.

They then transfer to one of its more than 20 partner universities in Australia, the UK, Ireland or Canada for completion of the medical programme.

These international partnerships mean that the IMU curriculum has been developed to meet these universities' high international standards.

The medical curriculum also provides a pathway for IMU graduates to train and work in the United States with the incorporation of the United States Medical Licensing Examination Step 1 Preparatory Course into the IMU medical curriculum across Semesters 1 to 5.

This is to allow future medical graduates to begin early preparation and be competent to sit for USMLE Step 1 examination that carves a path towards the US residency opportunities.

As a medical student in IMU, students get clinical exposure as early as Semester 1, with the aim of ensuring they gain sufficient skills before transferring to the clinical years.

Students who complete the entire degree locally in IMU will undergo an intensive six-month senior clerkship at Hospital Batu Pahat or Hospital Kluang in Semester 10, working in wards under the supervision of senior clinicians.

This early clinical exposure and intensive senior clerkship will prepare them for patient care and housemanship training, enabling them to become better doctors.

Intakes for this programme are in February and August each year.

Those interested can make an online application today.

■ For more information, visit <http://www.imu.edu.my>, e-mail start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.