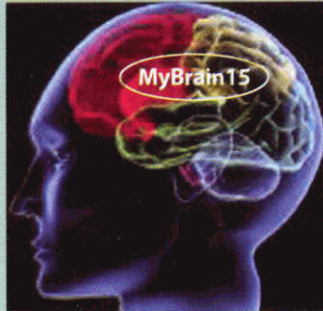
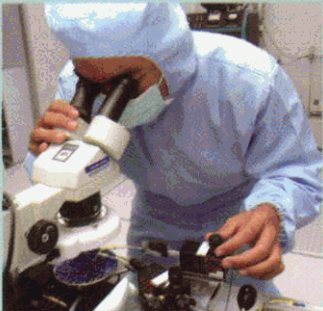


New Routes to PhD

The Malaysian government has recently set a new target of producing 60,000 Malaysian PhD holders by 2020 under the "MyBrain15" initiative. Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said that for MyBrain15 to succeed, government agencies, including public universities, would need to reduce bureaucracy to attract top Malaysian and foreign brains. To ensure adequate resources, the government would also be setting up a special fund to sponsor 400 bright students to further their studies from undergraduate to postgraduate level.

UniMAP as an institution of higher learning has a mandatory obligation to produce postgraduates as well as undergraduates. This is necessary to ensure an unbroken chain of skilled and knowled-workers are available at all times for the country and UniMAP herself. The federal government's "MyBrain15" initiatives are taken positively and applied to UniMAP's unique advantage via initiatives of her own. UniMAP has devised a fast track approach to obtaining a PhD for fresh graduates and working members of the public.



MSc/PhD

Fresh graduates represent the highest number of new postgraduate intakes. It would be prudent to offer a programmewhere these fresh graduates can pursue a potential PhD, without first completing their MSc, subject to certain prerequisites, however, and is known as the MSc/PhD research program. In this program, suitable candidates will be offered a possibility to obtain a postgraduate degree at PhD level immediately after their undergraduate degree. If the student does not attain the required level to proceed to a PhD level, the candidate will only be awarded an MSc degree.

There will be two (2) stages of evaluation. The first will be conducted after one (1) year of study. If the candidate succeeds, he/she will be allowed to proceed towards the PhD program. If the candidate fails, he/she will be asked to complete the research project and will only be awarded an MSc. Candidates who pass this first evaluation, the first year of their study will be included as part of their study duration for their PhD program but if they fail it will be included as part of their study duration for their MSc program. The second evaluation will be at the end of their study.

The admission requirements for MSc/PhD are ;

a) A Bachelor's degree in Engineering or equivalent from an approved university in an area relevant to the candidate's area of research or



study; OR other equivalent qualification approved by the Senate.
b) Minimum CGPA 3.30, or
c) Minimum CGPA 3.00 for candidates with at least 3 years working experience in related fields.

Industrial PhD

This program aims to encourage industrial participation in research and innovation and enhance the sharing of knowledge that can contribute to the growth and development of enterprises. The idea is for universities to generate new knowledge and promote research relevant to the industries in the country as well as foster stronger university-industry ties. Industrial PhD is a program in which candidates who are interested to pursue a PhD can do so without being confined to a university. This process is carried out by which candidates conduct research in the industry and is supervised by a supervisor from the university and industry.

The decision to award an Industrial PhD degree is based on industrial research in which it must conform to standards set by the university. Candidates are also subject to the requirements of a PhD where they have to follow courses and workshops organized by the Centre for Graduate Studies. At the end of study the candidate must produce the equivalent of a conventional PhD thesis. The successful candidate will be awarded a PhD in a related field. The degree awarded to an Industrial PhD candidate is based on the ability of the candidates to assume the role as leading researcher. Candidates must show a genuine contribution to science and demonstrate the ability to conduct research in accordance with international standards. This contribution is equivalent to a conventional PhD program.

UniMAP's Industrial PhD program will provide an opportunity for many Malaysians who wish to pursue a PhD. It also aims to promote Malaysia's economic competitiveness in the future. This method will be a platform for the production of high-class clusters of graduate education in Malaysia and innovation of new products and services. It will also help to produce PhD graduates from the industrial sector through the delivery of a thesis or research without going through the normal learning process at the university.

The Industrial PhD program has the following criteria :-

- (i) candidates must be engineers, researchers or equivalent who are working in the industry in Malaysia.
- (ii) Candidates will conduct research full time in the industry.
- (iii) Topic of the research must provide solutions to the industry.
- (iv) Main supervisor must be from UniMAP and co-supervisor from the industry
- (v) Proposal will be evaluated and certified by a panel from UniMAP and industry

It is hoped that with these two fast-track approaches, the knowledge base of Malaysia and UniMAP, in particular can be increased tremendously. In addition this will ultimately aid Malaysia to remain competitive globally.