Media Release

KLMUC Students Gain Invaluable “Real World Practice” Experience by Cooking for Big Events

Chef Yahaya and students from the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism invited to cook the Sultan of Brunei during his majesty’s 68th Birthday Celebration and for the Sime Darby LGPA Malaysia 2014 event

Kuala Lumpur, 4 November 2014 – KLMUC, the educational institution that prides itself on the concept of Real World Practice, were pleased to announce that their students from the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management were invited as special guest chefs for his majesty, the Royal Sultan of Brunei, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah to his grand 68th birthday celebration at the royal palace, Istana Nurul Iman in Brunei Darussalam for the second time.

The students’ experience was further heightened when they were tasked with being the lead chefs for one of the most exciting events on the regional golfing calendar, the Sime Darby LPGA Malaysia at the KL Golf & Country Club (KLGCC).

Both initiatives were led by popular KLMUC lecturer Chef Yahaya bin Hassan, who was also a judge on Masterchef Malaysia Season 1. They marked significant milestones for KLMUC as it resembled an extraordinary twofold experience.

KLMUC CEO, En. Mohd Kamal Hj. Nawawi said, “It is not common for colleges or universities to be presented these kind of opportunities, especially in preparing a banquet for a Sultan for his birthday and being invited to one of the most prestigious golf tournaments. Hence, this is a great honour for our students and KLMUC.”
“We at KLMUC always do our best to make the students realise their potential and that there is no greater experience than providing them a real life working environment which is cooking for the Sultan himself,” he added.

The KLMUC students worked in the various departments of the royal kitchen in Brunei such as the pastry, cold kitchen, and also prepared “VIP kits” from appetizers to desserts for approximately 64,000 attendees who attended the event in the Sultan’s honour. VVIP’s such as leaders of states from all over the world attended the event, including Prime Minister, Dato’ Sri Mohd. Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak.

Similarly, the students were able to experience cooking for a major international sporting event at the Sime Darby LPGA Malaysia 2014, giving them a glimpse at how big their careers could be if they put in the effort and utilize their learnings from KLMUC once they graduate.

Chef Yahaya Hassan, the team lead and lecturer for KLMUC said, “It was certainly a defining experience in my career and also for the students from KLMUC who joined me in serving the Sultan and the attendees of the Sime Darby LPGA. There were many challenges which we faced but as a team, we pulled it off spectacularly.”

“I hope the students apply what they have learn from these invaluable experiences in their future careers when they graduate soon,” added the enthused Chef.

One of the students, Shahida Asmadi said that both experiences were life changing moments and invaluable to his career progression in the industry. “Cooking has always been my passion which is why I chose to pursue it with a Diploma in Culinary Arts at KLMUC, as their facilities resemble a real life kitchen in the hospitality industry. The experience in presenting our skills to the Sultan himself tops it all and it has motivated me even more to become a full-fledged Chef.”
By participating in events and initiatives like these, KLMUC constantly seeks to expand its efforts in continuously enhancing student’s in-campus experience through practices that resemble those in the working industry. The hiring of lecturers with vast industrial experience also adds to KLMUC’s concept of ‘Real World Practice’.

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Kuala Lumpur Metropolitan University College

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