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UUM Corporate Comm.
Universiti Utara Malaysia

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"UUM : UNIVERSITI PENGURUSAN TERKEMUKA"
(THE EMINENT MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY)

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CACIE 2020 AUGMENTS THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION

UUM ONLINE: The COVID-19 pandemic that hit the whole world has opened the eyes of the world's population to the realization that everyone is now in a community with a shared future and common purpose for security, development, stability as well as finding solutions for global education in confronting the pandemic.

Thus, to realize this aspiration, intellectuals around the world share experiences, explore new methods of international education development and plan for the future of global education at the international conference called China Annual Conference for International Education and Expo 2020 (CACIE 2020) which takes place virtually from 21 until 28 October.

Malaysia is one of the countries that have received the honour to deliver a speech at the international conference.

In a recent keynote session, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dato' Dr. Ahmad Bashawir Abdul Ghani had been invited as one of the panellists for the forum entitled 'Future of the Higher Education Globalization Challenges, Opportunities and Solutions' along with other panellists made up of Presidents from China's leading universities.

He shared the best practices implemented by UUM in confronting COVID-19 and the development of the country's rapidly growing education system.

"When the world is hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to live in a new normal, with changes and Movement Control Order (MCO) directives implemented around the world, thus affecting the lives of everyone involved.

"The method that can be practiced, namely teaching that involves interaction with each other. In addition, technology plays an important role as a medium to continue teaching and learning (TnL) online," he said.

The Vice-Chancellor said higher education in Malaysia is growing rapidly in terms of quality and quantity in a conducive ecosystem in fact, it is also known as a global education hub.

According to him, UUM had already implemented various activities with the industry as well as establishing collaborations with strategic partners from European countries and China that have enormous potential.

At the session, he also talked about the latest developments of UUM including high impact achievements namely the QS World University Rankings and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

During the question and answer session, the Vice-Chancellor commented on the online teaching and learning process following the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the possibility of the University returning to hold face-to-face classes with students.

"In the current situation, online TnL sessions are no longer momentary, therefore we need to think of ways to assess and reorganise teaching methods that are appropriate to technological developments.

"Students have also begun to accept online learning methods since the outbreak of this pandemic. Taking the initial approach in line with the development, UUM has moved towards the digital campus by applying the use of technologies such as big data, Internet of Things (IOT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI), "he said.

He added that UUM had provided its student and staff with the latest and secured platform with virtual security features (cybersecurity) on applications such as UUM Online Learning, an online registration system and platform for online assessment.

Concluding the forum, he thanked the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) for selecting and giving UUM the opportunity to represent Malaysian public universities at the conference.

Prior to that, the Minister of Higher Education, Dato' Dr. Noraini Ahmad in her keynote address said, Malaysia through MOHE would like to make the best of the Malaysia-China relations that would continue to grow through long-term, comprehensive, multi-level exchange activities and cooperation that will benefit future generations.

Malaysia is famous for the tagline 'Education Malaysia: - Truly ASIA Affordable World-Class Education' now has 20 public universities, 437 institutions of higher education (IHE) and various other institutions of vocational education recognized by both the local and international community.

"Research collaboration between Malaysia and China between 2014 and 2019 has produced 3,724,546 scholarly results involving 1,067 institutions," she said, supporting the effort with the ability to contribute fresh ideas and act creatively on current and future challenges in society.

In this regard, she expressed hope that the joint research grant efforts between the two countries could promote the Malaysia-China exchange programme through the edutourism programme.

CACIE which is organised by China Education Association for International Exchange will also witness specially invited panellists sitting on several forum sessions. Attendees can also expect promotion sessions from universities from various countries.



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