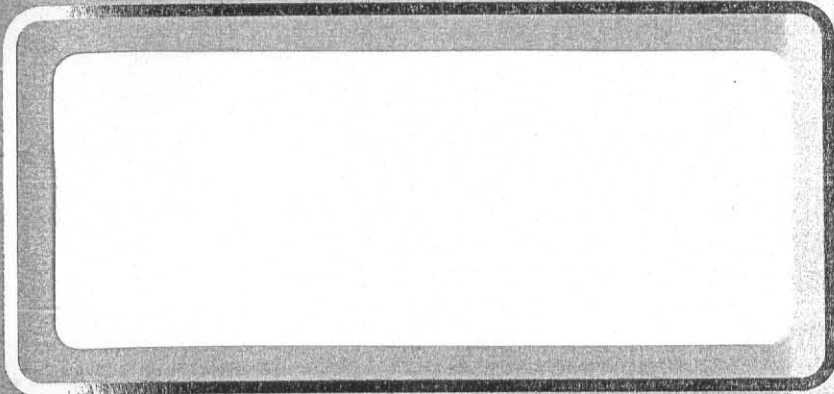
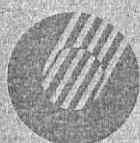


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Institute of Professional Development



OPEN UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITI TERBUKA
MALAYSIA

WELCOMING ADDRESS

by
Y.Bhg. Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Anuwar Ali,
Group Chief Executive Officer, METEOR Sdn. Bhd
at the
IPD-OUM Certificate Presentation Ceremony
On 12 December 2003 at 3:00 p.m.
at Bilik Kuala Lumpur, Aras 5,
PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

Bismillahir Rahmannir Rahim.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi

Wabarakatuh and a very good afternoon.

- Mr Soichi Okazaki, Managing Director, Jaya Jusco Stores Berhad;
- Mr Edward Chan, Managing Director, Asian Centre for Professional Development;
- Prof. Ansary Ahmed, Senior Vice President, Open University Malaysia;
- Management and staff of Jaya Jusco Stores Berhad;

- Management and staff of Asian Centre for Professional Development;
- Management and staff of METEOR Sdn. Bhd. and Open University Malaysia;
- The recipients of the certificates in today's ceremony; and,
- Ladies and Gentlemen;

First of all, I would like to thank our guests, Mr Soichi Okazaki, and his officers from Jaya Jusco Stores Bhd., Mr Edward Chan and his officers from Asian Centre for Professional Development and the recipients of the certificates for being here to participate in

Open University Malaysia's certificate presentation ceremony.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Today marks a special occasion for many of us, especially the recipients of the certificates. This marks the end of your journey in the pursuit of certificate level programmes for the 53 students from Jaya Jusco Stores Berhad pursuing the Career Certificate in Retail Operations and the 36 students from Asian Centre for Professional Development pursuing the Corporate Secretary Certificate programmes. These programmes form part of our institutional collaboration in the area of higher education and life long learning with corporate entities.

The collaborative programme with Jaya Jusco since last year is in itself a prime example of industry collaboration vis-à-vis educational institution. Not surprisingly, therefore, this collaboration has helped develop other similar linkages such as with Institut Keusahawanan Negara or INSKEN under the Entrepreneur Development Ministry.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Malaysia is building itself as the centre for educational excellence in this region. This has created unrivalled opportunities for young people to broaden their horizons in the field of education. More so with institutional collaboration and industry participation in the pursuit of knowledge, our students have

access to the best opportunities which is the result of good education.

Industry involvement in our tertiary education system occurs in a variety of ways. The most obvious is through recruitment or exchange of staff and students from industry.

OUM as a tertiary institution has also been active recently in recruiting students from the industry. Students from the industry can be admitted to different types and levels of programme: that is to certificate, diploma, undergraduate, postgraduate or research programmes. Moreover, with the generous support of organizations such as Jaya Jusco Stores Berhad, and Asian Centre for Professional Development, OUM is able to offer professional competency based programmes thus enabling working adults to

join Open University Malaysia to further enhance themselves in their chosen fields.

By this and other means, we see great opportunities for OUM in offering continuing higher education in the area of retail operations and retail business, and corporate secretaryship. Besides our experienced faculty and well-equipped regional centers, we are endowed with superb infrastructure, having one of the best digital libraries in this part of the world. This combination presents, I believe, an attractive prospect for potential students, which will be enhanced when we have completed our own regional centers aimed at providing all local students with on-campus environment during their programme of study.

Many people in our society are aspiring for continuing education and professional development. In recent years, rising community concerns about the academic opportunities of these programmes prompted OUM to embark on ensuring that the availability of such courses offered is at a comparable level to that which is applicable in other countries and institutions, and that such availability and standard is recognised as such both by the industry concerned and by the regulatory authority of this country. To this end, the Institute of Professional Development at OUM had entered into strategic partnerships with entities such as Select Knowledge from the UK and NTP World Forum, a large training provider in Malaysia. This has enabled us to offer additional six certificate level programmes and about 200

competency-based short courses. These programmes, with the support of Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (HRDB) would be offered to all members of the Malaysian workforce in the year 2004. This is a step taken to assist our government in producing knowledge workers to realize the K-economy.

To the recipients of the certificates today,

The opportunity created by OUM with Jaya Jusco Stores Bhd. and Asian Centre for Professional Development is aimed at benefiting working adults like you. Today's ceremony should not be regarded as the end of your journey but the beginning of one, as the journey for education never ends. This is a

first step towards achieving greater goals and aspirations in your quest to develop personal competencies as well as those of your society and nation.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The development and maintenance of industry to students and tertiary institutions, do not come without effort and diligence. This certificate ceremony is an example of the efforts involved. Efforts by the employers and providers of these programmes are commendable. Students should be congratulated as successful completion of these programmes would have demanded a lot of sacrifices in terms of time and efforts. For this I would like to congratulate and wish

you all a most rewarding experience when you embark to utilize knowledge and competencies earned during the course of your study with us.

Thank you.

Wabillahitaufik Walhidayah

Wasalamualaikum Warahmatullahi

Wabarakatuh.

TAN SRI DATUK DR. ANUWAR ALI
Group Chief Executive Officer
METEOR Sdn. Bhd.
IPD-OUM Certificate Presentation Ceremony
12 December 2003

IPD... your solution to people
and organisation development
through life long learning.

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