

STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Large February SIP intake

The recent February 2009 SIP intake has become the highest intake ever in our SIP history! Partly due to the wider variety of study areas which are now offered and selected by our members, partly perhaps due to these challenging economic times, which makes the inclusion of a student intern an excellent solution for specific projects as well as support in the day to day operations.

In the last few weeks we have welcomed nearly 20 Dutch students in Malaysia as part of this February intake. They are from various study areas such as International Business & Languages, (International) Communication, Small Business & Retail Management, Marketing Management (Commercial Economics), Management Economics & Law, Business Informatics, Logistics/Supply Chain Management, Food & Business, and Hospitality, and will undertake their internship at one of the MDBC member companies for a period of five months.

The next intake will be a small placement of students in April, mainly for business students of the study area Management, Economics and Law.

We also look ahead towards the September batch, for which we expect a lot of interest from companies and students alike.

For further information please contact MDBC at internship@mdbc.com.my.



Visit by SIP partner schools

Recently representatives from three of our SIP partner schools came to Malaysia to visit the MDBC and some of our members to evaluate on previous student internship experiences and to further develop the partnerships.

Saxion University of Applied Sciences was represented by Hans van der Velden (Manager International Affairs).

Windesheim University of Applied Sciences was represented by Pieter van Essen (Director and Student Internship Coordinator of the School of Business and Economics) and Ben Veldhuizen (Manager, School of Business and Economics).

Hanze University of Applied Sciences, since 2006 the largest SIP partner and supplier of business student interns, visited Malaysia again. Jan Henny Zijlstra (Placement Coordinator for students in Groningen) was accompanied by Ryan Schepers (International Coordinator School of Communication & Media) and Jarry Scheepens (International Relations at the School of Law).

It is very motivational for MDBC, for the internship companies and for the students to receive this interest from these Universities and to coordinate improvements on SIP to increase the internship opportunities.

The Intern Interview

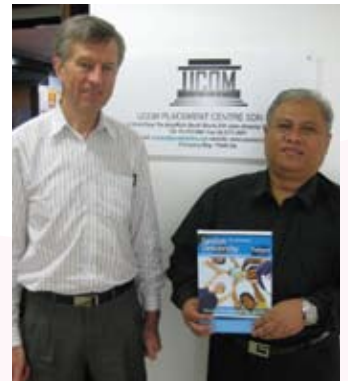
Erik Kral, a business informatics student of Saxion University in Enschede, just completed his five-months internship at Shell IT in Cyberjaya.

Shell IT had initiated a project to migrate 114,000 users worldwide to Microsoft Windows Vista. This requires careful planning and extensive engineering. To make the user comfortable with the new system, Shell initiated the User

Saxion and UCOM partnership

UCOM Placement Centre Sdn Bhd will represent Saxion University of Applied Sciences in a quest to bring more Malaysian students to the Dutch University.

This was discussed between the two MDBC members last February during the visit of Saxion's Director International Office Hans van der Velden and UCOM's Managing Director Abdul Ghani Jantan.



Windesheim's van Essen visiting his two student interns at Malaysian AgriFood Corporation

Hanze staff and students enjoying dinner at Bukit Bintang



Training team to support the end users with additional training materials such as e-learning courses, classroom courses, manuals and hints and tips.

Erik explained: "Since my course unites both people and computers, I assisted in this team to create and review training courses in English and Dutch. I also ran a usability testing programme with 10 end users to learn more about their migration experience. The results of the programme were

used to improve the migration process and to identify matters and other recommendations. Working with colleagues in Malaysia, England and the Netherlands made this programme a very good learning point for me," Erik added.

Erik has learned to work with people of different parts of the world and cultures. Living, working and travelling in a different country opened his mind, which will help him to continue his last year in University, he concluded.