

PRESS RELEASE

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INCEIF Delivers Global Talent Boost

KUALA LUMPUR, 5 Oct 2013

The 5th Convocation of INCEIF-The Global University of Islamic Finance- today welcomed 146 graduates from INCEIF's three postgraduate programmes which are PhD in Islamic Finance, Masters in Islamic Finance (MIF) and Chartered Islamic Finance Professional (CIFP).

In 2009, INCEIF's inaugural convocation saw 32 CIFP graduates from 7 countries received their scrolls from INCEIF Chancellor Tan Sri Dr Zeti Akhtar Aziz.

Today, 146 graduates from 30 countries received their scrolls from the Chancellor. Of the total 146 graduates, five are PhD In Islamic Finance graduates, 20 are Masters in Islamic Finance (MIF) and 121 are Chartered Islamic Finance Professional (CIFP).

Amongst the graduates are students from Muslim-minority countries including Canada, China, France and USA. They are joined by graduates from neighbouring countries of Singapore, Pakistan and South Korea as well as from the Gulf and African countries.

The increasing diversity of INCEIF graduates reaffirms INCEIF's role in developing world class talent for the global Islamic financial services industry. INCEIF graduates and students are not confined to geographical boundaries as they are also from different faiths and different academic and professional background.

At INCEIF's 5th Convocation, Ms. Norlina Naem of Malaysia received the President's Award as the best student for the CIFP programme. An accountancy graduate, Norlina is a staff of the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (IRB). Realising the increasing need for IRB to equip its staff with sufficient knowledge on Islamic finance, particularly those concerning taxation on Islamic finance businesses, IRB is encouraging its staff to further their knowledge in this area. Norlina, who is fully sponsored by IRB throughout her studies at INCEIF, has repaid her superiors faith in her by scoring straight As. She achieved all As in the 14 CIFP papers. In the near future, Norlina plans to join the Malaysian Tax Academy as a lecturer teaching Islamic finance with specialisation in takaful.

Syed Faiq Najeeb, from Pakistan, received the President's Award as the best student for MIF for achieving the highest CGPA of 3.98. Faiq developed a passion for Islamic finance when he was working as a Research Assistant at University of Nottingham in Malaysia. Subsequently, he was awarded the Bank Negara Malaysia Scholarship to pursue his MIF at

INCEIF. He completed the 24-month programme in a record 16 months. Currently, Faiq works with KFH Research Limited Malaysia as a Research Analyst with a portfolio of Islamic Finance.

In his speech at the convocation, INCEIF President & CEO Mr Daud Vicary Abdullah said for the coming year, INCEIF is focused on achieving its Key Result Areas in academic excellence, reputation and financial sustainability.

Towards achieving academic excellence, INCEIF has started its journey in obtaining the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation. AACSB is the most renowned accreditation association of business schools and includes the likes of INSEAD and MIT Sloan School of Management. The accreditation is important to INCEIF as the university benchmarks its academic programmes against the highest standards where business schools are concerned.

Mr Daud said: "Academic excellence and strong reputation will support us in delivering our third key result area which is financial stability. Towards that, the INCEIF Endowment Fund has been set up to receive endowment from industry and individuals to fund key activities for the industry. The fund would be used, among others, to further improve the quality of INCEIF academic programmes by investing in the best manpower and state-of-the-art facilities."

About INCEIF

INCEIF, The Global University of Islamic Finance, is set up by Bank Negara Malaysia to develop human capital for the global Islamic finance industry. Apart from its academic programmes, which are Chartered Islamic Finance Professional, MSc in Islamic Finance and PhD in Islamic Finance, INCEIF also offers customised executive training programmes and industry-focused applied research in line with its vision to be the knowledge and thought leader in Islamic finance.

INCEIF syllabus is structured with inputs from industry players to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and industry experience. INCEIF faculty members, who are globally respected among the Islamic finance academia and industry, have a combined wealth of experience and diversity. The faculty, coupled with continuous support from the industry, provides INCEIF students with strong mentoring relationships and opportunities for professional development. For more information, please visit www.inceif.org.

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PHOTO HERE



Caption: Chancellor presented a scroll to Syed Faiq Najeeb, from Pakistan, received the President's Award as the best student for MIF.



Caption: Chancellor presented a scroll to Ms. Norlina Naem from Malaysia received the President's Award as the best student for the CIFP programme

