Majoriti dijangka pelajar S’pura

Pelancaran Maktab Yale-NUS

PM: Maktab turut buka pintu kepada pelajar asing bagi beri perspektif baru

Oleh: NURADILAH MAHBOB
nuradilah@phb.com.sg

MAKTAB Yale-Universiti Nasional Singapura Singapura (NUS) akan membuka pintunya kepada pelajar terbaik dari rantau ini, tetapi dalam masa yang sama akan menambah pelajar Singapura yang dijangka membentuk majoriti kemasyarakannya.

Perdana Menteri, Encik Lee Hsien Loong, berkata demikian ketika melancarkan Maktab Yale-NUS semalam.

“Nilai sesebuah maktab pengajian sastera liberal (liberal arts) berbanting bukan sahaja kepada mutu, malah kepada kepelbagaian pelajarannya,” ujar Encik Lee.

Pelajar asing akan memberi perspektif baru dan merangsang proses pembelajaran, lantas meningkatkan pendidikan universiti, tambah Encik Lee.

“Namun, kebanyakan pelajar Maktab Yale-NUS dijangka warga Singapura.


Majlis yang diadakan di Dewan Universiti, NUS, dekat Lower Kent Ridge Road semalam itu turut dihadiri Menteri Pendidikan, Dr Ng Eng Hen.

GABUNGAN BARAT DAN TIMUR: (Dari kiri) Menteri Pendidikan, Dr Ng Eng Hen; Presiden Yale, Profesor Richard C. Levin; Perdana Menteri, Encik Lee Hsien Loong; Pengurus Lembaga Penganaman, Encik Wong Ng Liang; dan Presiden NUS, Profesor Tan Chorh Chuan, melihat model kampus Yale-NUS di majlis pelancaran semalam.

Maktab Yale-NUS merupakan yang pertama di rantau ini menawarkan pengajian sastera liberal yang tidak terikat dengan pengkuhuan atau kejuruan yang merangkumi pelbagai disiplin, termasuk sastra, matematik kepada lini kemanusiaan (humanities).


“Ini membolehkan mereka menyumbang kepada pembangunan ekonomi dan sosial negara mereka, dan membantu memupuk persefahaman antara manusia yang amat diperlukan pada abad ini,” kata Profesor Levin.

Yale-NUS, yang menawarkan pendekatan gabungan perspektif Barat dan Timur, akan turut memberi pelajar kepada pelajaranya mengikut program luar negera.

Para pelajar akan belajar dan tinggal sepenuh masa di kampus, yang merangkumi tiga maktab perumahan.

Kampus itu akan ditempatkan bersebelahan Bandar Universiti NUS yang terletak di bekas premis Kelah Golf Warren.

Apabila dibuka pada 2013 kelak, maktab itu akan menerima 150 mahasiswa sebagai permulaan, dan kemudian 250 pelajar baru setiap tahun.
Majority expected to be Singaporean students
PM: College also opens doors to foreign students for a new perspective

By Nur’adilah Mahbob

Yale-NUS College will open its doors to the best students in this region but at the same time, it will admit local students, who are expected to form the majority of its intake.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said this during the launch of Yale-NUS College yesterday.

“The value of a liberal arts college depends not only on the quality, but also on the diversity of its student body,” said Mr Lee.

Foreign students will provide a fresh perspective and stimulate the learning process, thus enhancing university education for all students, added Mr Lee.

“However, the majority of Yale-NUS students are expected to be Singaporeans. I am confident more Singaporeans will join this College when parents and students come to see the value of liberal arts education,” said Mr Lee.

The event, which was held at University Hall, located at Lower Kent Ridge Road yesterday, was also attended by Education Minister, Dr Ng Eng Hen.

It was explained that NUS will retain the 20 percent limit for overall foreign student intake, with the percentage varying for each faculty and college.

At Yale-NUS, this percentage will be dependent on the overall quality of applicants, said NUS President, Professor Tan Chorh Chuan.

“For a new College like Yale-NUS, it is difficult for us to determine the number of applications we will receive but we are expecting enthusiastic response from Singaporean students,” said Professor Tan at the press briefing.

Yale-NUS College is the first in the region to offer a liberal arts degree, which is not tied to any particular specialization or course, covering multiple disciplines from science and mathematics to humanities.

Professor Richard C. Levin, President of Yale University in Connecticut, US, said that liberal arts education encourages students to think critically.

“This enables them to contribute to economic and social advancement of their nations and facilitate greater understanding amongst peoples which is desperately needed in this century,” said Professor Levin.
Yale-NUS, which brings together Eastern and Western perspectives, will also provide its students with opportunities to participate in overseas programs.

Students will study and live full-time on the campus, which includes three residential colleges.

The campus will be located next to NUS University Town, situated at the former grounds of Warren Golf Club.

When it opens in 2013, the College will have an inaugural intake of 150 students which will grow to reach 250 new students each year.