



اَبُو سَيِّدِي تَنَاجُو اَلْوَكْرَانِ مَبَارَا
UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA



WELCOME ADDRESS

**YANG BERBAHAGIA
PROFESSOR DATUK EMERITUS
DR RADUAN CHE ROSE**

**CHAIRMAN
UNIVERSITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

iCEPS GALA DINNER

7 OCTOBER 2023 (SATURDAY) | 6 P.M.

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

Thank you to the Master of Ceremony.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Yang Berbahagia

Professor Dr Azlinda Binti Azman

Director General of Higher Education

representing

Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled

Nordin

Minister of Higher Education

Yang Berbahagia

Datuk Professor Dr Azizul Halim Yahya

Chief Executive Officer

Institute of Continuing Education and
Professional Studies (iCEPS) UiTM

**Esteemed UiTM Executive Management,
Assistant Vice-Chancellors, Rectors, and
Deans**

**Special invitees from various sectors and
industries**

Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri, Datuk, and Datin,

Ladies and gentlemen.

Salutations

(To be confirmed by the organiser on the day of the event)

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Salam Sejahtera dan Salam Malaysia Madani.

Good evening, everyone.

1. Alhamdulillah, praise be to Allah S.W.T, by whose grace we are permitted to gather this evening for the **Institute of Continuing Education and Professional Studies (iCEPS) UiTM Gala Dinner** in conjunction with its **Golden Jubilee Anniversary**.
2. It is an honour to welcome our special guest, **Yang Berbahagia Professor Dr Azlinda binti Azman, Director General of Higher Education**, who is here on behalf of **Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled bin Nordin, Minister of Higher Education**, to officiate the Opening Ceremony tonight.

3. I believe that the presence of **Yang Berbahagia Professor Dr Azlinda binti Azman** is a testament to the commitment and drive demonstrated by everyone who has worked tirelessly and contributed to the event's success.
4. I extend my deepest appreciation and my most heartfelt congratulations to iCEPS for successfully executing this exceptional event.
5. I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the presence of our industry partners this evening. Their support and attendance at this **Gala Dinner** substantiate the importance of relations and cooperation between institutions of higher learning and the industry in ensuring that the graduates we produce will remain relevant for the local and international job market and at the same time uphold the country's higher education.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. The significance of **lifelong learning** encompasses the continuous self-motivated search for knowledge for oneself or for professional reasons.
7. **Lifelong learning** also develops human potential through a constant learning process to master knowledge, absorb good values, and expand horizons.
8. These are much-needed skills to take on responsibilities with confidence and creativity in the face of challenges.
9. Most importantly, **lifelong learning** enables individuals to gain knowledge and skills that are compatible with the high-income economic model as well as foster interest and inculcate individual talents for a more meaningful life.

10. In light of this, iCEPS upholds the motto, ***"Preparation for life"*** and aims to establish iCEPS as a leading institution that offers everyone a wide range and world-class lifelong education opportunities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

11. iCEPS was established in **1973** under the name ***Pengajian Luar Kampus ITM*** or ITM Off-Campus Studies. **27 years later**, the institute was known as ***Pusat Pendidikan Luar*** or the Centre for External Education before it was changed to ***Pusat Pendidikan Lanjutan*** or the Centre for Advanced Education in **1998**.

12. Following the trajectory of technological development in education, the institute was later known as the **NEO Education Centre** before becoming what we know today as the **Institute of Continuing Education and Professional Studies (iCEPS)**.

13. Hence, warmest felicitations to iCEPS on its impressive 50-year achievements, offering higher education and helping the community to obtain diplomas and degrees to advance in their career.

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. Various synergies have been successfully implemented by iCEPS. Among these accomplishments are the increase in the **enrolment of part-time students to more than 13,000 active students** and being benchmarked by other institutions on experience and knowledge of managing and handling our programmes.

15. Additionally, iCEPS became the developer of **UFuture** which is the official platform of UiTM e-Learning that has been in use **since 2020**.

- 16.** iCEPS has also established **franchise partnerships** with foreign institutions such as the **Qaiwan International University of Iraq**, government agencies, ministries and corporate bodies, and many more.
- 17.** Endowed with numerous achievements to date, I wish for iCEPS to continuously play a significant role in producing more talent in various fields and establishing the presence of these talents in the industry, subsequently increasing UiTM's graduate employability.
- 18.** May iCEPS be an exemplary institution that provides accessibility to all walks of life and produces holistic graduates for the nation and beyond, Inshaa-Allah.

19. Before I end, once again, congratulations to all on making this event a success and please enjoy our special dinner tonight. May the occasion bring plenty of wonderful moments.

Thank you.

***Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum
Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.***