University presents scrolls to 133 graduates

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JOHOR BARU: It was a proud day for some 133 Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed) graduates who received their scrolls at the university’s sixth convocation ceremony here.

Among them was 24-year-old Leow Tze Hai, who could not contain his joy as he received his Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) during the ceremony plus two other awards for his excellent academic performance.

Leow, who hails from Penang, was awarded the prestigious Walton Prize from the university for having the highest performance throughout his undergraduate academic career as a medical student as well as EduCity Best Student Award 2019.

“I feel humbled to have received the awards and am also very happy as I did not expect to end my time here with such a great honour.”

"It also feels pretty amazing as after five long years of sleepless nights and grinding through the syllabus, my group and I get to finally enjoy the fruits of our hard work," he said after the graduation ceremony here at Persada International Convention Centre.

Meanwhile, another medical graduate Adrian John Leong, 25, who delivered a speech during the ceremony, said that he and other graduates hope to be able to contribute to the community and improve public health.

"It has been my life-long dream to be a doctor and I have been waiting for this day since I was barely six years old.

"It is exciting but also nerve-racking to enter the working world and have people's lives depending on us but I am ready to take on the challenge and am sure my friends are as well," he said.

Out of the 133 graduates who received their scrolls, 110 of them were from the university's MBBS programme and five from its BSc (Honours) Biomedical Sciences programme.

The ceremony also featured the conferment of Foundation Certificate in Biological and Biomedical Sciences to a total of 17 students, while one more received a doctor of philosophy degree.

NUMed Medical sciences faculty pro-vice-chancellor Prof David Burn, who presided over the ceremony, hoped graduates would take on the responsibility to share and spread the knowledge they received at the university.

"The need for highly educated and skilled healthcare workers is increasing every year and you are entering the medical profession at a very important time for our nation.

"The knowledge and skills you have obtained will now be put into practice and I hope you will be able to bring positive improvements to the community around you," he said in his speech.