Over the last 20 years, since the establishment of Malaysia’s first private university, i.e. the Multimedia University, there has been a rapid increase of public and private universities in Malaysia. The private universities included not only those that grew from local colleges, but also foreign universities setting up campuses in Malaysia and running courses out of the parent institutions. During that time, the Malaysian government pushed strongly for the creation of national, regional and global education hubs in order to take Malaysian tertiary education to a higher level. Many of these hubs became catalysts for economic growth in the regions where they are located. Parallel to this, institutional evolution has taken many forms, both locally and through international collaboration.

This seminar will focus on some of these evolutions, as well as the necessary strategic moves that some have taken in response to the fast changing higher education landscape brought about by technology and economic and geo-political challenges.

For registration, please visit: http://jci.edu.my/events/registration/
Speakers:

Holistic Transformation for Universities to Achieve Academic Excellence
Professor Dr Sakina Sofia Baharom  
*Head of Education Transformation MARACorp, 1Sentral*

Since the turn of the 21st Century, the model of higher education has undergone various stages of transformation to remain relevant and to achieve its desired outcomes. Based on the experience gained in the transformation of UNITAR International University (UNITAR), the presenter will share her next transformation project – to transform MARACorp Education Group. The focus of the presentation will be on understanding the process of organisational transformation and the critical success factors to bringing about change in large organisations faced with the need to adapt to radical changes in the environment.

Challenges of Developing A New Private University with Co-Ownership: The IUMW Experience
Professor Hamzah A. Rahman  
*Former President, International University of Malaya-Wales*

The establishment of the International University of Malaya-Wales (IUMW), a private university set up in 2013, was the result of a collaborative joint venture between two public universities, i.e. the University of Malaya and the University of Wales. Through such an endeavour, students can pursue their education in separate locations, partly in Malaysia and partly in Wales, thus incurring lower costs as compared to studying overseas, while helping fulfill the respective objectives of the collaborating parties. This talk will explore how the collaboration took place, its issues and challenges; as well as those of meeting the demands of delivering high quality tertiary education in an environment of constrained budgets and the need to meet the parent institutions’ expectations.

Creating Sustainable Malaysian Universities for Global Higher Education Competition
Tan Sri Professor Ghauth Jasmon  
*Board Member, Sunway University*

The steep growth in the number of public and private universities in the last decade posed serious challenges to existing local institutions, both public and private, in the face of an ever decreasing higher education budget, thus impacting upon the quality of instruction. The presentation will explain the key challenges that are at hand now and the critical success factors for all Malaysian universities to ensure relevance and sustainability in this era of uncertainty and global competition.