

IPM opens Seniors Academy in Taipa



IPM President Marcus Im Sio Kei addresses the opening ceremony of the institute's Seniors Academy in Taipa Village yesterday. Photo: Monica Leong

Monica Leong

The Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM) opened a Taipa branch of its Seniors Academy (ACS) yesterday that will provide a four-year study programme in conjunction with its counterpart on the Macau peninsula campus next year tailor-made for the elderly.

A formal opening ceremony was held on the first floor of the Taipa Chun Su Mei Community Centre where IPM's second Seniors Academy is located, in Taipa Village. Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam Chon Weng and other government officials were among the attendees.

IPM President Marcus Im Sio Kei said at the opening ceremony that more and more senior citizens are keen to learn and have become more demanding about the quality of the courses.

Im noted that the Seniors Academy was established in 1999 to provide a range of courses dedicated for senior citizens' needs for continuous learning, and over the years the academy has gained the trust of local seniors, apart from being formally recognised by senior citizens' education institutions on the mainland and abroad.

According to Im, the branch in Taipa will first launch six short-term courses for a total of 183 senior citizens, while it will start enrolment of 300 new students for a four-year study programme organised in conjunction its counterpart on the peninsula next June, increasing the number of students in the two academies to almost 1,000.

Macau's original Seniors Academy is located on the IPM campus in Zape. ■