

# Producing innovative IoT experts

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SINCE the term Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR 4.0) first came to light, droves of aspiring entrepreneurs and tech-minded people from all walks of life have been gearing up to ride this industrial evolution wave.

IR 4.0 continues to change the direction of the industry by demanding that companies adopt new technologies based on automation and take full advantage of increasingly advanced Internet network connectivity.

A key element of IR 4.0 is interconnectivity through the Internet of Things (IoT), which is currently utilised across industries to create an environment that is more connected and pivoted on big data.

In tandem with industrial and future needs, Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Information Technology (UniKL MIIT) has introduced its flagship Bachelor of Information Technology (Hons) in IoT degree programme.

This specially designed, industryspecific programme, which began its student roll this year, has a course duration of three years and four months, including industrial training. Among the syllabuses covered are IoT network, IoT platform, machine learning, data analytics, data visualisation and cloud computing.

According to UniKL MIIT's Department of Computer Engineering lecturer Fuead Ali, UniKL's priority is to produce graduates who have the right skills to meet industry-specific needs. Fuead, who is also involved in the theoretical and practical preparation of the programme syllabi, says: "This programme is not based on theory alone as in-depth emphasis is placed on industry involvement.

"We collaborate with industry partners as part of the course syllabus, which provides students with the opportunity to receive professional certification from leading tech companies without additional costs.

"This partnership allows our graduates to stay abreast with current developments in the industry. Our aspiration is to produce industry-relevant graduates who can continue to serve in the industry," he adds.

Programme coordinator Diyana Ab Kadir says employment opportunities for graduates are extensive as there is high demand for industry experts in the field of IoT.

As an example, she notes that as telecommunications companies embark on the complete use of 5G technology, this has created an urgent need for IoT experts.

This demand extends to the health industry, where companies and medical facilities strive to provide more integrated and databased patient monitoring systems.

"Companies across all industries will require IoT solutions. The question is whether they choose to invest in it or not," Diyana says.

She says most companies will need IoT expertise to reduce their dependence on a human workforce, specifically in areas that can be automated. This allows streamlining of jobs that

require human expertise, which in turn reduces management costs and increases the demand for IoT solutions.

UniKL MIIT also partners with industry movers such as the Red Hat Academy, Cisco Academy and Quandatics Academy to ensure that students receive continuous exposure to industry developments.

STPM/STAM/Matriculation/ Foundation/Diploma graduates who are interested in joining the October 2020 intake can contact UniKL MIIT's Admission Division at 03-2175 4146 (Hafize or Asmawati) or email [fuead@unikl.edu.my](mailto:fuead@unikl.edu.my)