

Honing soft skills and leadership

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IN this digital and pandemic era, the need for technology has increased demand for a workforce skilled in computer networking.



For two decades, the Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Information Technology (UniKL MIIT) has been offering a Diploma of Engineering Technology (Computer & Networking) (DCNET).

While honing technical skills is important, sharpening soft skills and leadership qualities is also vital.

Muhammad Ezra Muhammad Ismail, one of the programme's pioneers and alumnus, is currently serving his alma matter as a systems and network lecturer.

"The DCNET programme provides students with first-hand knowledge and hands-on experience in creating, managing and maintaining computer network-related technologies," he said.

"Bear in mind, however, that excellent technical skills can only take you so far. Communication skills and leadership qualities are an added value, so be prepared."

He is also an Academy Council Member of Cisco Malaysia and a Cisco Certified Instructor Trainer who actively contributes to activities such as UniKL Open Days, official visits, training and workshops.

According to fellow DCNET alumni Syakirah Syahrulnizam, who signed up for UniKL MIIT Edu-Tourism Programme Buddy back in 2015, life has never been the same.

"As an international buddy, I met and organised various activities for students from South Korea, France, Kazakhstan and many other countries.

"Besides enhancing my soft skills, the experience took me out of my comfort zone and helped me build a global network. I also found that such international involvement increases your employability rate," she said.

Mohammad Ikhwan Shafiq Rushdan, a DCNET alumni who later pursued a bachelor's degree in Networking Systems, landed himself an IT executive post with a global oil and gas company before graduation.

He helped coordinate and organise various corporate social responsibility projects such as Knowing Sharing Sessions with vocational and technical students, and also managed and conducted outdoor activities for Kelab Rekreasi UniKL MIIT.

Ikhwan also represented Malaysia in the traditional martial arts silat, participating in competitions abroad while pursuing his studies.

The DCNET Programme is embedded with professional certifications such as Cisco IT Essentials and Cisco Certified Network Associate Academy.

Its career paths include network system integrator, network designer, programmer and server administrator. Without these positions, companies might run the risk of losing their vital Internet connection.

The university also offers technical programmes such as the Foundation in Science and Technology for Korean University (PreKorea), Foundation in Computer Technology and Diploma in Information Technology for its July 2021 Intake.

For more information, visit and apply online at www.admission.unikl.edu.my or call 012-266 0774 (Radziana Abdul Rahman).