

**SPEECH BY KOL. PROF. DATO' DR. KAMARUDIN HUSSIN,  
UniMAP's VICE CANSOLOR CERTIFICATE CEREMONY FOR  
AGILENT – UniMAP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (AUDP) ON 4  
FEBRUARY 2008, AT AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES (M) SDN.  
BHD, PENANG.**

Bismillahir-rahmanir-rahim

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh dan salam sejahtera.

Vice President / Managing Director Agilent Technologies (M) Sdn.  
Bhd. Madam Shidah Ahmad.

My respected colleague Prof. Dr. Ali Yeon Md. Shakaff, UniMAP's  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International),

UniMAP's deans of engineering schools, heads of departments,

Most res, and UniMAP staff.

First and foremost, I am most grateful to Allah, the most gracious  
and most merciful, for His blessings in giving us this opportunity  
gather this morning on the occasion of Agilent – UniMAP  
Development Program (AUDP) Graduation Ceremony. This ceremony  
is a show of acknowledgement to the Agilent's staff who is also  
UniMAP's students, for their endless effort in advancing in their  
careers through continuous education. Their effort is an inspiration to

others, which will certainly bring Malaysia a step closer in her journey to be the center of world class education and engineering.

It is my great pleasure to welcome all of you, the Agilent and UniMAP community to this humble yet pleasant ceremony. Let us give a round of applause to our distinguished guests and graduates.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I feel highly delighted and honored to be amongst you. I am very pleased that after five years since our establishment, UniMAP has successfully conducted various programs. One of the most successful programs is the AUDP, which is carried out with close cooperation with our number one partner, Agilent Penang. UniMAP is truly proud and honored that a giant multinational company like Agilent is willing to work and cooperate with UniMAP as their partner, supporting each other though thick and thin.

Since February 2007, KUKUM has been known as Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP). As a result, the program, which is originally named AKDP (Agilent – KUKUM Development Program), has also been changed to AUDP (Agilent – UniMAP Development Program), to reflect this. Being a Focused University we emphasize very much on the practical-oriented aspect of engineering, which have been very much a success story to us. Our first batch of students was almost 100% employed by their time of graduation, and our programs have

also received full five years accreditation, while the second cohort courses' approval are still under review. As the saying goes – share and share alike, we have decided not to keep this formula a secret to ourselves. The courses taught to the students in this program is nothing less than what is offered back in Perlis, and the structure is tailor-made to suit Agilent's requirement. Armed with about 40-strong committed and experienced staff's involvement, where most of them are acquired directly from the industry, I fully believe the students have benefited greatly over the duration of this program.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is our common objective to produce high quality graduates who are able to satisfy the needs and requirements of the industry. UniMAP has this mission in mind not only for the development of the local industry, but also for the world. However, UniMAP is not able to take on this mission alone. Without industry input, the curriculum we offer may just as well be hollow. That is why UniMAP, has always arranged periodic curriculum reviews, which is conducted to ensure relevancy of our course materials and scope, aligned to the needs of the industry. We are also proud that subject matter experts from Agilent are willing to participate in these exercises. For instance, the School of Computer and Communication has already secured the services of Agilent Manager Mr Lee Chee Woei in their upcoming curriculum review in March.

Spearheading the industrial-related initiatives, the Centre for Industrial Collaboration (CIC), headed by Assoc Prof Mohd Shuid Salleh, has to this end aggressively organized various activities, which have been proven effective and beneficial. For students, we have Industrial Training program (InTra), Industrial Exposure program (IndEx), Industrial Technical Lecturer (InTeLect), Engineering Entrepreneurial Program (IndEnt), Industrial Visits, and many others. These programs will never be a reality without Agilent's support. One of the upcoming planned programs with Agilent Campus is an industrial line tour and "Meet the Engineer" program involving about 100 first year UniMAP students in May. On the other hand, for lecturers and professors, we encourage sabbatical leaves to be spent in the industry, and our Teaching Engineers go through industrial attachments from time to time.

Since the introduction of the Industrial Training Programme (InTra) in the last three years, we have received a lot of positive comments from you. Among them are the outstanding skills and confidence demonstrated by our student during their stay in the industry. This has no doubt been made possible through our rigorous academic curricular that pay much attention to the development of skills that suit the needs of today's industry. I am convinced that Agilent Manager, Mohd Fauzi Mohd Hussain, who has already recruited his second UniMAP trainee, two years in a row, will vouch for this. I am also positive that with the guidance and supervision from highly skilled Engineers and Managers here in Agilent, we will be able to

produce graduates of undisputed quality. We hope that with our already close working relationship, more students will be able to be placed in Agilent for their InTra attachment and benefit from the invaluable experience and exposure that Agilent has to offer. We also hope that some day, our students will go on to become Agilent's engineers, who will be the hands that shape the world of engineering.

In addition to the programmes that I mentioned, I welcome further suggestions to collaborate with UniMAP in different research or industrial programmes. Thus far, Agilent has been generous enough to support UniMAP through various grants, mainly through the Agilent's Diversity Grant. The School of Microelectronics Engineering has been awarded USD 10,000, while the Center of International Affairs (CIA) has been the recipient of USD 9,500 to support our International Exchange program for Third Year Undergraduate students. Understand also that several Agilent's staff has already planned to travel down to Perlis to brief UniMAP's staff and students about the opportunities available through the PhD Fellowship Program and Program for University Research (PUR). Through these ongoing activities and various future collaboration efforts, I believe that this will create a win-win situation which will benefit UniMAP and Agilent greatly.

Ladies and gentlemen,

For many semesters now, UniMAP has tried hard to acquire the best brains of the industry to give lectures to UniMAP students. This scheme is called the Guest Industrial Lecturer scheme, and has been seen to be very successful indeed. The students, UniMAP lecturer, and the guest industrial lecturer have interacted with one another in more ways than one. As a result, the students' industrial and academic experiences have been enriched tremendously. With at least 50% of UniMAP's teaching staff having industrial experience prior to them working here, I am sure the students stand a very good chance of learning all there is to learn about work in the industry.

This is not to mention that UniMAP has the best equipment in its teaching labs – especially for the use of students everyday. Our investment in this area is acknowledged by many parties, including the Malaysian Engineering Accreditation Council. Indeed, UniMAP has devoted much time and money to build up its teaching infrastructure that parallels those in use in the industry itself. This includes the extensive use of Agilent's Test and Measurement equipments and V.E.E software in our labs, and the proposed plan to further embrace the Agilent's E.E.Soft into our Bachelor of Communication Engineering syllabus. I humbly invite all of you to pay us a visit sometime and see if you want to use some of our facilities in mutual projects that involve both UniMAP and Agilent.

With UniMAP's third batch of students graduating in a few months time, it is my hope that Agilent, represented by our distinguished

guests in this hall today, will employ them upon their graduation. We firmly believe that they have much to offer. They have gone through rigorous training and education, and hence they should be able to make a lot of difference and contribution in Agilent. I ask that they be given the opportunity to do so.

Lastly, may I ask that we work hand-in-hand in our effort to develop the appropriate human capital with first class mentality that this country and the world needs. With your continuing support and interest in us, I am sure this is not going to be difficult.

Before I end, I would like to thank Agilent's Bandwidth Group, CIC and the organizing committee of this event for their superb drive in making this graduation ceremony a success. With that, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to once again congratulate the AUDP Graduates for successfully completing their program with flying colors. Thank you.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi taala wabarakatuh and blessings to all of you.