

Doctorate Workforce

Since its inception almost eight years ago, UniMAP has always stressed on the importance of improving the intellectual potential of her academic workforce, in order to enhance effective teaching to students. Hence, increasing the number of Ph.D (Doctor of Philosophy) lecturers has been a focus. As early as 2003, the first batch of lecturers were sent abroad to further their studies.

This proactive role by the university management is a bold balancing act because as a newly set-up university the balance between an ever increasing number of undergraduates and its effective teaching force comes to a critical point. However, in view of long-term effectiveness this has to be done.



A total of seven of the first batch of lecturers sent are now back in UniMAP, and in various leading positions. Dr. Hazry Desa, from Oita University, Japan focused on mechatronics engineering. Another five from various schools or disciplines were sent to United Kingdom while one obtained his Ph.D locally. Dr. Mohd. Saifuldin Abdul Manan and Dr. Khairul Azwan Ismail are both at the School of Manufacturing Engineering, but pursued their Ph.D's from University College, London and University of Cambridge, respectively.

School of Microelectronic Engineering has Dr. Asral Bahari Jambek from University of Edinburgh and Dr. Mukhzeer Mohamad Shahimin from University of Southampton. Dr. Asral specialized in IC Design while Dr. Mukhzeer specialized in Bio-Photonics. Dr. Mohd. Fareq Abd. Malek, currently at the School of Computer & Communication Engineering, obtained his Ph.D from the University of Liverpool. Dr. Luqman Musa of Materials Engineering had obtained his doctorate from Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Now, they have all come back with a doctorate and are highly committed to contributing their skill, knowledge and experience to UniMAP. The seeds of a bold action plan are finally seen. Their presence has contributed to significant growth and improvement to UniMAP. Most of them are still young and energetic and not only are they contributing academically, they are also into administration and research as well.

Dr. Hazry Desa, for example, with his skills and credibility has been appointed as the Dean of the Centre for Communication Skills and Entrepreneurship as well as being a lecturer for Mechatronic Engineering. He has also been appointed as the Head of 'Autonomous System and Machine Vision' Research Cluster where he leads a group of researchers in their related fields. On the other hand, Dr Saifuldin Abdul Manan and Dr. Mohd Fareq Abd. Malek have been appointed as Deputy Dean of Research and Academic for their respective schools, Manufacturing Engineering and Computer & Communication Engineering.

As of July 2009, 159 of UniMAP's staff are continuing their post-graduate (doctoral) degree all over the world. When they have completed their studies and returned, they will continue UniMAP's tradition to always remain dynamic and competitive not only locally but also globally.

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