

Asia e University (AeU) recently held its 4th convocation ceremony at the Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur on 21st September 2014. Graduates from around the world, several ambassadors and representatives from foreign embassies particularly from the 33 Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) countries have celebrated and graced AeU with their presence.

At AeU's 4th convocation, of the 1,200 graduates who received their scrolls, about 300 were international graduates, among them was a new batch of Indonesian students who graduated from the Bachelor of Information & Communications Technology (Hons) or BICT programme. This programme is a joint collaboration between AeU and the State Polytechnics of Jakarta (PNJ), Indonesia.

The BICT students from PNJ did their final year at AeU, Kuala Lumpur campus, after completing AeU's On-line Distance Learning (ODL) mode for the first 3 years and with the given class support by the polytechnics in Indonesia. They are supported by myPLS, an AeU's learning management system where they can access to all the learning materials and video content for their courses, communicate with their Academic facilitators via forum, as well

as submitting their assignment online.

PNJ students are given the options to either remain in Indonesia as AeU's ODL students during their 4th year of studies, or to continue their final year degree in AeU Malaysia as full time students. AeU full-time students will benefit from face-to-face classes conducted weekly and have the opportunity to engage in a series of discussions with their lecturers.

For AeU-PNJ students, their industrial training and examinations are arranged either in PNJ, Indonesia, or in AeU, Kuala Lumpur, depending on the location where they are based.

Both International and local students can enrol in BICT (Hons) programme either in full-time or part-time

basis, spanning three years or around 14 semesters. In terms of flexibility, students can switch their mode of study from part-time ODL to full-time and or vice versa during their study period. For Indonesian students, this flexibility allows them to continue learning via the online programme from Indonesia, while they work.

#### Career prospects

Leveraging on its industrial collaborations, AeU arranges on-the-job training placements for students at selected IT companies for a stipulated period. Only good students are retained by the companies, who will arrange for their work visa in Malaysia.

BICT graduates are well equipped with knowledge

and skills in information and communications technology, covering areas in wireless, mobile communications and Internet. They are taught on competencies and skills in critical thinking, conflict resolutions, creativity, resourcefulness, team working, effective communications, and leadership qualities which help to exemplify their speaking and presentation abilities. They also partake in activities such as leadership and youth conferences also become an avenue for the students to hone their personal traits and attributes to excel in the workplace.

ICT jobs are varied and in demand from sectors in education, banking, corporate, telecommunication, printing, film/animation, broadcasting and advertising. BICT programme provides the necessary ICT skills such as technical professionals or managers who work in the fast pace

telecommunication or IT firms. Jobstreet indicates that the top 10 most popular IT profession in Malaysia includes software programmer/engineer, network/system engineer, IT executive/MIS, functional consultant/business analyst, IT/department manager, technical support, system administrator, supervisor/team lead in software and system analyst.

#### What a graduate says about BICT (Hons) Programme

Hadi Satria Putra, an AeU graduate in BICT (Hons) with a specialisation in Information System had secured a full-time employment as a Software Consultant with Exact Southeast Asia Sdn Bhd, located at Mid Valley, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

"I remember that during the learning process, we en-



Hadi Satria Putra

joyed lots of chances to improve our communication skills with other people. We also joined conferences attended by many other international students. We even have helped during many of the university events and mix up with other university's staff and students. These experiences and my achievements have truly defined and somehow moulded my personality" he recalls.

# AeU's 4th convocation ceremony and graduates' achievements