

The human aspect of computing

THE late Steve Jobs once likened the computer to “a bicycle for our minds”. To him, it is the most remarkable tool mankind ever created.

His words inspired Mok Yun Liu to pursue a degree in computing.

As UCSI University was one of the few universities that included the Apple iOS operating system into its curriculum, his choice was obvious.

Currently in his second semester, the BSc (Hons) Computing student has been on the dean's list for almost every semester, and has won the UCSI University President Award – granted to students with outstanding academic and co-curricular achievements; and a recipient of The Star Education Fund's full scholarship.

Mok chose computer science because he believes that it is the most available tool to make a difference in society.

He believes this helps IT professionals create ideas that are applicable by people and not being disconnected to reality.

For that, he credits UCSI's Praxis approach for giving him the avenue to experience the industry while he is still studying.

Mok's first year of internship was in a global insurance bank with not much in line with his basic knowledge, yet the experience changed him.

His latest second co-op placement in a web development company gave him the chance to use the knowledge learned in class, and even “created a code that my boss used”.

He is looking forward to starting his third co-op placement and hopes to do

postgraduate studies soon.

Summing up his enthusiasm for computer science, Mok says, “Time is limited, and you might as well spend it doing something you love. For me, it's computer science.”

UCSI works closely with industry experts for their insights – particularly in the fast-changing field of IT. It is important that education is not isolated from the realities of the working world.

Head of the School of IT (SoIT) under the Faculty of Business and Information Science Asst Prof Chloe Thong says this is achieved through a three-pronged approach, focusing on the curriculum, Co-op Placement and industry collaboration.

Whether it is the advance of new technologies or climbing the career ladder, the SoIT students are known among employers for their flexibility, adaptability and talent.

The SoIT also works with numerous Co-op Partners to provide students meaningful work experience during their studying years.

The School also collaborates with experts such as the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC) to constantly upgrade its programmes to meet industry expectations. As a result, students of the SoIT are highly in demand.

■ To find out more about UCSI University's Faculty of Business and Information Science, contact 03-9101 8882 or e-mail www.ucsiuniversity.edu.my/onlineenquiry. Also drop by UCSI's Open Day on March 28 and 29, 9am to 5pm.

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- and exceeded - expectations.

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is the close partner university shares with some of the best companies in the world. Technology transfer and collaboration are the key to UCSI's constant growth and its mission to help its students.

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Asst Prof Thong (left) and Mok with the President of University College Cork, Ireland Dr Michael Murphy during his recent lecture at UCSI University on mathematician George Boole whose works inspired many computer programming systems including, Pascal and Java.

