Switching tracks

NUS-ISS graduate diploma provides the bridge to an IT career for communications graduate Luke Chen

APRIL CHENG

Mr Luke Chen, 25, may not have had a chance to pursue a degree in information technology (IT), but that will not stop the communications graduate from forging a career in IT.

With the Institute of Systems Science at National University of Singapore (ISS) launching the first edition of its Diploma in Systems Analysis (DIPS) programme, Mr Chen has found a stepping stone for an IT graduate like him to step into the IT industry.

He says: “The first and primary reason for choosing this programme was my interest in computer technology and NUS-ISS graduate diploma provides the bridge to cross over into computer science.”

Mr Chen has had a strong interest in computers since primary school. He even learnt HTML from a library book and wrote code with Notepad on a PC.

During his secondary school days, he adopted MultiMediae Foundation (MMF), a classmate and learnt Flash, Frontpage and Dreamweaver online.

However, when he was in junior college, he was unable to get a suitable combination that included computing and thus pursued a Bachelors in Communication course.

A friend introduced him to the NUS 50 programme and he applied for it even before graduating from his undergraduate studies.

“I have been looking at pursuing a master’s degree in communication rather than computer-communication. Cyber-security, web development, information technology are all areas I want to explore,” Mr Chen says.

“However, the DIPS programme was a good and timely opportunity as an emerging cross-discipline career option.”

“Taking this course will allow me to gain relevant IT knowledge and skill that I will decide on my next step,” he says.

Fast-paced course

In the 15-month full-time programme, students spend the first seven months on a rigorous sched- ule of lectures, workshops and project at the NUS-ISS campus. Topics covered include computer hardware and software, systems analysis and design, and mobile application design.

“The course is really fast-paced and demanding. However, that should not deter anyone, especially those who are not from a science background, from taking the course,” he says.

“The material workshops are done in small groups and the approachable lecturers are always available for consultations,” he says.

One of the most enjoyable modules in the course is Mobile Development. Every weekend, Mr Chen goes to a McDonald’s blackboard and codes behind the counter with his classmates.

He says: “Mr Chen was also attracted to the programme because it includes an internship.

Currently, he is interning at Integrated Health Information Systems (IHIS) Development Centre as an 18G and Android mobile application developer.

This big step away from the internship is so far has been understanding the importance of IT’s role in the health sector.

For Mr Chen: “When people code for hospitals, they can make billions of dollars. When people code for hospitals, it’s a crucial part of the core business, a goldmine.”

“Innovation can save lives and improve healthcare experiences. This makes the internship meaningful, knowing that the small concep-tual innovation you provide can save someone’s life. It was how the DIPS programme shaped and honed his IT skills.”

Possibility to direct entry to Year 2 Bachelor’s degree with your Diploma

Mr Chen says Bachelors and Master’s degree programmes to choose from

Reputable university partners from Australia, Ireland and the United Kingdom

Wide range of disciplines to suit your passion

Kaplan Education Institute offers Diplomas, Bachelors’ and Master’s degrees in a wide range of disciplines.

Accounting & Finance Management

Business & Management

Communication & Media

Engineering

Hospitality & Tourism Management

Humanities & Social Sciences

Information Technology

Law

Nursing & Allied Health

For information on preview sessions, visit www.kaplan.com.sg/hkd

To request for a brochure or register for a preview session, send KAP-APRD (full-time) or KAP-VDST (Part-time) via SMS to 987777598 or enter it at http://kapp.kaplan.com.sg

*Any changes in institutional Learning Requirements and Syllabus are subject to meeting entry requirements. Be sending the code via SMS or website, you are giving your consent to have a representative from Kaplan contact you regarding your request.

For all diplomas, bachelor’s or master’s degree programme enquiries:

Kaplan City Campus

18 Wilkie Road, #03-16, Singapore 228988

General Enquiries: info@kaplan.com

Kaplan Singapore

Marketing Hotline: 1800 800 338

For all professional accounting and financial programme enquiries:

Kaplan City Campus #07-01, 19 Wilkie Road, #03-16, Singapore 228988

General Enquiries: info@kaplan.com

Kaplan Singapore

Marketing Hotline: 1800 800 338

For information on preview sessions, visit www.kaplan.com.sg/hkd

To request for a brochure or register for a preview session, send KAP-APRD (full-time) or KAP-VDST (Part-time) via SMS to 987777598 or enter it at http://kapp.kaplan.com.sg

*Any changes in institutional Learning Requirements and Syllabus are subject to meeting entry requirements. Be sending the code via SMS or website, you are giving your consent to have a representative from Kaplan contact you regarding your request.

For all diplomas, bachelor’s or master’s degree programme enquiries:

Kaplan City Campus

18 Wilkie Road, #03-16, Singapore 228988

General Enquiries: info@kaplan.com

Kaplan Singapore

Marketing Hotline: 1800 800 338

For information on preview sessions, visit www.kaplan.com.sg/hkd

To request for a brochure or register for a preview session, send KAP-APRD (full-time) or KAP-VDST (Part-time) via SMS to 987777598 or enter it at http://kapp.kaplan.com.sg

*Any changes in institutional Learning Requirements and Syllabus are subject to meeting entry requirements. Be sending the code via SMS or website, you are giving your consent to have a representative from Kaplan contact you regarding your request.

For all diplomas, bachelor’s or master’s degree programme enquiries:

Kaplan City Campus

18 Wilkie Road, #03-16, Singapore 228988

General Enquiries: info@kaplan.com

Kaplan Singapore

Marketing Hotline: 1800 800 338

For information on preview sessions, visit www.kaplan.com.sg/hkd

To request for a brochure or register for a preview session, send KAP-APRD (full-time) or KAP-VDST (Part-time) via SMS to 987777598 or enter it at http://kapp.kaplan.com.sg

*Any changes in institutional Learning Requirements and Syllabus are subject to meeting entry requirements. Be sending the code via SMS or website, you are giving your consent to have a representative from Kaplan contact you regarding your request.