

Passion brings you further in life

CURRENTLY working as a Health Operation manager at Shell Malaysia, Harnesh Kaur has progressed in leaps and bounds since she graduated with a nursing degree from the International Medical University (IMU). She shares her story:

"In my role, there is a need to apply my medical knowledge, clinical nursing experience and health principles to the best interest of the company, employees and customers in general. This is a specialty most commonly known as Occupational Health.

I constantly need to be on my toes, finding creative ways and staying fluid when engaging with my stakeholders. Mind you, they are healthy people who have different priorities at hand and health may not be top on their list.

I would say the 'nurse' in me, and the years of rigorous training and caring for my patients and family members during my clinical years, have stood me in good stead.

Even though I do not perform any hands-on clinical tasks now, I am always required to be alert and able to anticipate any health-related hazard/issue, and deploy different strategies.

For example, Covid-19 was a very challenging situation, which called for multiple strategies in dealing with the pandemic. As the business and stakeholders were keen to ensure their services and activities were not affected adversely, I had to use all my nursing and public health training and perspective to support the company and strategise.

This included deployment of health promotion activities to care for the staff virtually, ensuring necessary SOPs were in place and covered all activities carried out by employees, as well as risk mitigating procedures to ensure any possible occurrence of an outbreak is prevented."

Looking back at her time at IMU, Harnesh felt it provided her a wonderful platform to grow and transform holistically.

The interdisciplinary environment also allowed her to not only excel on the academic front, but also blossom personally and professionally.

My clinical postings and internships had also been another memorable yet rewarding experience in IMU. In my last semester, an internship with the Breast Cancer Awareness Welfare Association allowed me to discover my passion for community work and promotion of health awareness to the public.

After graduation, the first job offer I received was from Singapore. Working in Singapore provided great exposure. I had the chance to work with people from various backgrounds. Career wise, the environment was different from Malaysia – the expectation and demands were different.

However, due to the excellent IMU



Harnesh Kaur has progressed in leaps and bounds after she graduated with a nursing degree from IMU.

Nursing curriculum, I was able to blend in well with the fast-paced Singapore healthcare system and culture. During my four years working in Singapore, I was able to be agile and keep up with the advanced medical technologies deployed in the patient care settings, as well as cope with the high standards expected from healthcare professionals."

IMU offers a four-year Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) that prepares a student to become a registered nurse, qualified to practise in a variety of settings in either the public or private healthcare sectors. Students are provided opportunities to learn a whole range of nursing skills in addition to acquiring knowledge related to nursing practice.

The commencement for the Nursing programme is in September each year. IMU welcomes students with pre-university qualifications to start a promising and rewarding yet challenging future in Nursing.

If you have pre-university qualifications, make an online application today.

Scholarships are available for eligible students.

If you have just completed your SPM and do not have pre-university qualification, the one-year IMU Foundation in Science (FIS) is the direct route for entry into any of the university's degree programmes.

■ For more details, refer to www.imu.edu.my or email start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.