

One from the heart: My passion filled journey to becoming a doctor

FELICITY Ng started her journey towards being a doctor in 2014 when she became a Foundation in Science student at the International Medical University (IMU). Six years later, she is a House Officer at University Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre (PPUKM) in Kuala Lumpur. Felicity tells us more in this interview.

“Young and wide-eyed, after high school, I was eager to start on my degree and eventually serve as a doctor. I knew the journey ahead would take me at least 5 years, so there was always a race against time. Having explored many pre-university options which required at least a good 18 months, the prospect of a one-year course like IMU’s Foundation in Science (FiS) seemed too good to be true,” she said.

Not only did the course accelerate students through pre-university, it was also an in-house programme that catered

its syllabus to their degree courses.

This was so that it ensured students a seamless transition to their preferred undergraduate programme following completion.

“It was definitely a promising path to take as it ticked all the right boxes for me, but it had a catch – I would be in the pioneer batch to join and this meant not knowing what to expect.

“I definitely had my doubts about the programme, but after thorough research and countless discussions with IMU staff, I took the leap of faith and never looked back since,” added Felicity.

She said IMU gave her the best 6 years she could have ever asked for. Fresh from school, Foundation in Science was a stepping stone to university life.

Surrounded by many senior degree students, the class of FiS114 was quick to learn the ropes around campus culture.

“As we were the youngest ones around, the friendships forged amongst ourselves were like no other. We were a tight knit group who endured all our ‘firsts’ together and have made memories that will last us a lifetime,” she said.

However, nothing was without its hardships and FiS proved itself an uphill battle according to Felicity.

“It was a whole new ball game compared to high school and had required so much more from me. Assignments were quite a heavy part of our assessments and there were a lot of ‘thinking outside the box’ approach and self-directed learning,” she recalled.

Getting used to this routine was a challenge at first, but through endless support and guidance of peers and lecturers, she eventually picked up.

FIS gives early start as degree student

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Finally, after one full year of passionate, dedicated work, she scored a seat to enrolment with IMU's MBBS programme. The IMU's one-year FIS gives its students an early start to life as a degree student. Being offered and conducted in the same facilities and environment as the degree programmes, FIS students adapt to the facilities and environment at a much earlier stage.

What's more interesting and exciting for the IMU Foundation in Science students is the sneak previews into the IMU degree programmes, experiencing it for themselves what each of these degree programmes have to offer.

This is made possible through the 'Look, See, Feel' engagement activities arranged for the FIS students.

A 'Buddy Programme' based on former FIS seniors now in IMU's various undergraduate programmes or already graduated is now in place as a go-to resource for current and prospective FIS students. The current IMU Foundation in Science team consists of carefully selected, well qualified and experienced staff with specific skill sets that make them ideal pre-university level academicians.

The team have a clear understanding of subsequent undergraduate degree programme requirements and are assisted in this regard by degree level academics who also advise the students on their available undergraduate pathways while in foundation. Undergraduate lecturers and professors also advise on the design and content of FIS lectures, tutorials and assessments.

The Foundation in Science, IMU has three intakes a year: March, July and August. These convenient start dates will enable smooth transition into the preferred degree courses that students are interested in, upon successful completion of the programme. If you would like to apply for this programme, make an online application today via our website, www.imu.edu.my.

You can also refer to www.imu.edu.my or email: start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03 - 2731 7272 for more information.



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