

Gah!

Gaya Hidup • Artistik • Hiburan

Misi menjana program sarjana reka bentuk mencorak jiwa ihsan

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DUNIA reka bentuk di Singapura tidak mampu berada di takuk lama.

Peranannya dalam kehidupan harian individu ataupun dalam mencorak keadaan sesebuah kota kosmopolitan yang dihujani penduduk juga sudah pesat berubah di ranau ini atau pun seantero dunia.

Menyedari hakikat itu, Dekan Fakulti Reka Bentuk di Maktabsen Lasalle, Cik Nur Hidayah Abu Bakar, 39 tahun, berusaha menyentik idea baru bagi mememarkan semula program Sarjana Sastera dalam Reka Bentuk sebagai program yang akan diperkenalkan Januari tahun depan.

Sebagaimana jelnya tentang program sarjana selama 18 bulan itu ketika ditemui *Gah!* di pejabatnya baru-baru ini:

"Kami memiliki program sepuja lima tahun lalu. Bagaimanapun, saya akur wajarnya kami memikirkan serta mencorak semula program sarjana reka bentuk ini bagi memenuhi tuntutan serantau dan antara bangsa yang pesat berubah.

"Perbincangan dan usulan idea bagi program ini bahan kepada bidang pengurusan fakulti secara menyeluruh.



CORAK JIWA BERIHSAHAN: Dekan Fakulti Reka Bentuk di Maktabsen Lasalle, Cik Nur Hidayah Abu Bakar, ingin kursus Sarjana Sastera dalam Reka Bentuk yang diberi suntikan baru tahun depan menarik minat pelajar yang pratinjali lagi ingin memanfaatkan bidang rekaan sebagai khidmat kemasyarakatan. Bersamaanya ialah pemimpin kursus Sarjana Muda Sastera (Kepujian) dalam Rekaan Fesyen, Encik Lionel Roudaut. – Foto ZAINAL YAHYA

padas sekian lama memberi fokus pada bidang pengurusan fakulti secara menyeluruh.

"Jika dahulu saya hanya menjadi penyanyi undangan, belasan pelajar yang kami sasarkan bagi program sarjana reka bentuk ini akan saya bimbing bagi beberapa modul."

"Saya teruja memulakan sesuatu yang baru, yang diharap dapat menebarkan daya fikir dan membuka ruang perbincangan antara saya dengan pelajar kursus ini. Ia bagaikan 'cahaya mata' yang akan saya jaga batang matang manyan yang penuh," katanya lagi.

Kepentingan bagi kursus ini turut dirasakan dengan Singapura dinobatkan sebagai Kota Reka Bentuk Kreatif oleh Pert-

peruan Pendidikan, Saintifik dan Kebudayaan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (Unesco) tahun lalu, seiringan Bandung, Indonesia.

Bersama Budapest, Hungaria; Detroit, Amerika Syarikat; Kaunas, Lithuania; dan Puebla, Mexico; keduduk kota ini memperkuat Rangkaian Kota Kreatif Unesco.

"Ada yang meneroka bidang keusahawanan sosial menerusi projek rekaan yang boleh dimanfaatkan manysata-

"Pengalaman bermakna seperti yang saya alih bersama kumpulan wanita dengan jangkitan HIV di Kemboja inilah yang ingin saya sisipkan dalam pembelajaran pelajar saya kelak."

"Ada yang meneroka bidang keusahawanan sosial menerusi projek rekaan yang boleh dimanfaatkan manysata-

"Wanita sebegini bukanlah

pelajar rekaan yang biasa saya temui. Mereka perlu belajar mereka cipta kerana memerlukan wang serendah A\$82 (\$2.86) bagi menyara hidup keluarga mereka.

"Lantaran itu, dalam memulakan sesuatu program rekaan baru, ia haruslah bersifat inklusif (melibatkan masyarakat) dan bukannya eksklusif bagi pengamat atau karyawan reka bentuk sahaja," ujarnya.

PENGALAMAN TIDAK BOLEH DIJUAL BELI

Sekitar lima tahun lalu, Cik Nur Hidayah juga pernah membawa pelajarannya menjalankan projek menghidupkan semula tradisi menenun yang pupus di Filipina.

"Menanti bas berjam-jam lamanya bagi menaiki kawasan bukit-bukit sahaja memenaknakan pelajar ini yang berkeliushesah.

"Isu bahasa, kita memudahkan WiFi dan perlunya mereka belajar masak sahaja sudah menjadi satu pengalaman yang payah dilupakan.

"Bagaimanapun, mereka memainkan peranan mereka sebaiknya sebagai perekre bentuk. Mereka belajar apa erti menenun."

"Perkara-perkara indah sebegini tidak mampu diajar dalam dewan kuliahan berhawa dingin. Mereka perlu lalui sendiri pengalaman mencabar ini yang akan mencorak jati diri mereka sebagai anak Singapura yang lebih memahami perasaan dan sikap orang lain," tambah Cik Nur Hidayah.

Menerusi program sarjana reka bentuk itu, beliau yakin ia akan melengkapkan pelajar dengan minda yang segar bagi memikirkan masa depan kota Singapura, komuniti antara penduduknya, hubungan antara manusia dengan objek milik mereka serta dorongan menjadikan insan lebih baik menerusi rekaan yang dihasilkan.

Program Sarjana Sastera (Reka Bentuk) Lasalle

Bermula: Januari 2017

Tempoh: 18 bulan

Cara kursus dikendalikan:

► Sepenuh masa

► Kelas diadakan kebanyakannya masa pada waktu petang

Struktur program:

Program ini fokus membantu pelajar membangun amalan reka bentuk yang dipimpin oleh kajian dengan peluang pembangunan yang dapat merangsang pertukaran dalam silang disiplin.

Pelajar akan meninjau dan mengontekskan pendekatan analitis dan sistematis bagi mereka bentuk metodologi kajian dan merumuskan wacana reka bentuk dalam tiga cabang yang luas - kajian dalam reka bentuk, reka bentuk berdasarkan kajian serta kajian menerusi reka bentuk.

Tema kajian (menerusi modul, pelajar akan meninjau, mengkritik dan mengusulkan idea kontemporer dan baru dengan memilih sekurang-kurangnya satu tema kajian berikut:

► Kota kontemporer: Ia menyentuh cara bagaimana perekre bentuk boleh mengubah pengalaman harian di bandar serta perspektif pemikiran penghuni bandar.

► Objek dan perlambangan: Bagaimana seseorang individu mengamati dan memahami objek yang direka itu bergantung pada situ sama lain secara sosial dan kebutaan. Interaksi, naratif dan hubungan antara manusia serta objek mereka diteroka.

► Perekre bentuk warga jagat: Frasa 'perekre bentuk warga jagat' itu dicipta pengkritik rekaan Steven Heller dan Veronique Vienne. Ia mengisahkan keadaan di mana si perekre bentuk mempersoal bagaimana mereka boleh menjayakan perubahan politik atau sosial, pengertian menjadikan perekre sosial atau menyedari secara terperinci rekaan dalam sekitaran yang pesat berubah.

► Identiti akan datang: Apakah yang terkandung dalam dunia rekaan akan datang? Bagaimana ia boleh membangun strategi inovasi bagi menangani isu perubahan pasaran, unsur berdaya saing, keupayaan pertumbuhan dan matlamat perniagaan. Trend yang berubah dan model kajian baru dalam memperbaiki sekitaran manusia atau yang dicorak oleh mereka diikuti.

Calon yang dicari:

► Kelulusan ijazah yang baik (sejarah dengan keupayaan dua-dua) dalam apa jua bidang daripada institusi yang diiktiraf.

► Pengalaman relevan dan sekukupnya dalam kerja kreatif (secara bertulis atau visual).

► Pengalaman bekerja secara profesional, sepenuh masa atau sambilan dalam bidang berkaitan.

► Pemohon yang bukan daripada bidang reka bentuk tetapi berminat atau mempunyai latar belakang relevan dalam membangun kajian reka bentuk dialu-alukan.

► Mereka diperlukan mengirim usulan kajian dan menghadiri sesi wawancara.

Hubungi 6496-5111 atau e-mail kepada admissions@lasalle.edu.sg untuk mendapatkan keterangan lanjut.

TERUJA DALAM KESIBUKAN

Lantaran itu, Cik Nur Hidayah, ibu seorang anak remaja, dapat mengandaikan jadualnya tahun depan lebih sibuk daripada biasa dengan tuntutan mengajar pelajar kursus sarjana ini sekali gus.

"Rakan-rakan dalam fakulti saya memberi sokongan dengan syarat saya akan memimpin program ini dan kembali menjadi tenaga pengajar sele-

THE SHAPE OF COMPASSIONATE SOULS The Dean of the Faculty of Design at LASALLE College of Arts, Ms Nur Hidayah Abu Bakar, hopes that the Master of Arts in Design which has been given a new touch next year will attract the interests of students who are concerned and desire to use design to benefit society. Together with her is the Programme Leader of BA(Hons) Fashion Design & Textiles, Mr Lionel Roudaut. - Photo ZAINAL YAHYA

A sense of mission propels the Master's programme in design to shape the human soul

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The design world in Singapore can no longer stay stagnant.

Its role in the everyday life of an individual or in the shaping of a cosmopolitan city packed with inhabitants has rapidly changed in this region and the rest of the world.

Acknowledging this reality, the Dean of the Faculty of Design at LASALLE College of the Arts, Ms Nur Hidayah Abu Bakar, 39, is hard at work coming up with new ideas to refresh the Master of Arts in Design programme that will be introduced in January next year.

She explained more about the 18-month programme when Gah! met her at her office recently:

"We used to have a similar programme five years ago. However, I acknowledged that it was appropriate for us to refresh the Master's programme in design to meet regional and international demands that have changed quite rapidly.

"It took three years to brainstorm and discuss ideas for this programme. We conducted feasibility tests with our students to ensure that the curriculum can be of benefit to society."

EXCITED BY THE BUSY-NESS

As a result, Ms Nur Hidayah, mother of a teenager, expects her schedule next year to be even busier than usual with the added responsibility of teaching students of the Master's programme.

"My faculty colleagues gave me their support on the understanding that I would lead the programme and return to teaching, after having focused for so long on managing the faculty as a whole.

"Previously I was only an invited lecturer, but the more than ten students that we are targeting for this Master's in design programme will be learning several modules directly from me.

"I am excited to begin something new which I hope will stretch the intellect and open up areas for discussion between the students of the programme and myself. It is like my 'baby' whom I will have to take care of to the best of my abilities," she added.

The importance of this programme is also felt as Singapore was given the title of UNESCO Creative City of Design last year, together with Bandung, Indonesia. Along with Budapest, Hungary; Detroit, the United States; Kaunas, Lithuania; and Puebla, Mexico; both cities strengthen the UNESCO Network of Creative Cities.

NURTURING INTELLIGENT AND COMPASSIONATE DESIGN STUDENTS

Ms Nur Hidayah also wishes to see professionals from outside the field of creative design come forth and participate in the course to add to its variety.

She also wishes for the LASALLE design students to graduate with knowledge that will transform them to become more compassionate to the needs of society.

"In this era, each person is expected to take up various design disciplines. One does not only learn design to become a graphic designer or fashion designer.

"There are those who explore the field of social entrepreneurship through design projects that benefit society.

"Meaningful experiences like the one I went through with a group of women with HIV in Cambodia are something which I want to impart into the learning of my future students.

"These women are not the typical design students I usually encounter. They have to learn to create because they need less than US\$2 (\$2.86) to support their families.

"Thus, in commencing a new design programme, it should be inclusive in nature (involving society) and not exclusive just for those with interest or design professionals only," she explained.

EXPERIENCE CANNOT BE BOUGHT OR SOLD

About five years ago, Ms Nur Hidayah brought her students to undertake a project to resurrect the tradition of weaving that had become extinct in the Philippines.

Travelling by bus for hours to go up a hilly region was tiring enough for the restless students.

"The language barrier, lack of wi-fi facilities and the need for the students to learn to cook on their own were unforgettable experiences.

"Nevertheless, they were able to play their roles as designers. They learnt what weaving meant.

"Such beautiful things cannot be taught in air-conditioned lecture theatres. They have to undergo such challenging experiences for themselves to shape their identity as Singaporeans who are able to understand the feelings and attitudes of other peoples," added Ms Nur Hidayah.

She is confident that the Master's degree programme will equip students with fresh minds that are able to think about the future of Singapore, explore communication among its inhabitants as well as the relations between humans and their own objects, and that will be motivated by the desire to become better human beings through the designs they have produced.

LASALLE Master of Arts in Design Programme

Commencing : January 2017

Duration : 18 months

Course implementation :

- Full time
- Classes will be held mostly in the afternoons

Programme Structure :

This programme focuses on helping students to develop their design practice guided by research with development opportunities to encourage cross-disciplinary exchange.

Students will survey and contextualise analytical and systematic approaches for them to develop research methodologies and formulate design discourse in three wide areas – research in design, design based on research and research through design.

Research themes (through modules, students will survey, critique and propose contemporary and new ideas by selecting at least one of the following themes :

- Contemporary city: It touches on how designers can change everyday experiences in the city and thought perspectives in urban residents
- Objects and symbolism: How an individual observes and understands designed objects depends on their own social and cultural realities. Interactions, narratives and relations among humans and their objects are explored.
- **Designers are global citizens** The phrase "designers are global citizens" was coined by the design critics, Steven Heller and Veronique Vienne. It depicts a situation where the designer questions how they can affect political or social changes, the meaning of being a social designer or realising in detail design in an environment that is rapidly changing.
- **Future identities** What is in the world of design of the future? How it can develop innovative strategies to handle changes in marketing, competitive edge, organisational capabilities and business goals. Changing trends and new research models in improving the human environment or research on their own creations.

Candidates being sought :

- A good degree (equivalent to second class honours) in any discipline from a reputable institution.
 - Relevant and sufficient experience in creative work (written or visual)
 - Professional work experience, full time or part time in a related field.
 - Applicants not from the design field but are interested or have relevant background in developing design are welcomed.
 - Applicants have to submit a research proposal and attend an interview.
- Call 6496-5111 or e-mail to admissions@lasalle.edu.sg for more information.