

OFFICIATING SPEECH BY
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VICE CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI PETRONAS
TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION AND CAREER (TEC) 2018
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Seminar Room 7, Undercroft

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Cik Anis Amira Amir
Project Manager Technology, Education & Career (TEC) 2018

Puan Roslina Nordin
Advisor Technology, Education & Career (TEC) 2018

Executive Management Committee Members

Representative from participating companies and industries

Distinguished Guests, Members of the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Selamat Sejahtera and a very good afternoon.

On behalf of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP), it is my pleasure to welcome all the participating companies and industries to another edition of Technology, Education & Career (TEC) 2018, UTP's industry-specific career fairs offering work and internship opportunities. For everyone's information, this annual career fair is organised *by the students* and *for the students*. The establishment and progression of TEC since 2001 up to this date is a testament of how our students are tenacious in organising an event that as you can clearly see is no easy feat. I was made to understand that we have 47 companies offering internship and job placements today. These include Petrolia Nasional Berhad or PETRONAS, PETRONAS Lubricants International Sendirian Berhad, Hartalega, Exxonmobil, Uzma Group, Mcdermott, Nestle, Rosen Asia Pacific, just to name a few.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At UTP, we are committed to providing an inclusive learning ecosystem that maximises the opportunities for our students and at the same time ensures that education delivery is relevant to industrial practices. We pride ourselves in incorporating holistic teaching practices that include life skills, soft skills, planning management, and leadership training. Our students are active in various local and international events and exhibitions and we truly hope that we have embodied the role of a progressive institution. This event is in line with the purpose of a university that exists not only to create knowledge but to pave a pathway for the future successes of each new generation of the workforce.

Through TEC and our Career Development Office in UTP, we work hand-in-hand with employers who are major stakeholders in the institution's output. Employers are the ultimate resource for career offices to find out what the current employment trends are, current skills needed to be employed and employer expectations.

We consistently conduct pre-employment programmes such as resume writing workshop, interview skills, and 'personal grooming' to ensure UTP's students are industry-ready and are able to hit the ground running upon graduation. We carry out career experience sharing sessions which have been gaining positive responses from students since it provides the platform for first-hand information by employers to share their experience with students and to assist students to have a better grasp in making career choices. We also conduct round table discussions with employers to hear from them about what they have observed and what they need from our graduates.

As a focused university with distinct competitive advantages, we are able to institute many initiatives that set us apart from others. For example, UTP offers one of the longest industrial internship programmes in the country. The students are posted as interns for 28 weeks (approximately 7 months). The length of the internship duration allows students to engage in more significant work assignments and is widely thought as a major strength of the academic curriculum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Graduates of today and the future need to be equipped with the necessary tools and skills to navigate the challenges of the workplace of the future, or to become business and job creators. Hence, there is a need for graduates now to move towards Technopreneurship. Students need to be equipped with the requisite knowledge and skills in entrepreneurship competence for students to use their academic learnings to solve problems in the real-world.

We also need for graduates to be more agile, have a solid understanding of how the workplace works and see how their skills fit into it. And the industries and companies should also prepare them for the idea of moving across jobs and sectors. On this note, we hope to forge closer collaborations with industries and companies in the form of bilateral arrangements with not just technology companies and oil and gas service providers but also industries and companies from other sectors to discuss further on how we can deliver superior programmes for the benefits of our graduates.

In closing, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the sponsors and the participating companies and industries who have come from all over Malaysia to be here today. My heartiest appreciation to the TEC 2018 organising committee for your commitment and dedication in ensuring the success of this event. Before I end, let me again thank everyone for your presence. Without further ado, it now gives me great pleasure to officiate TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & CAREER (TEC 2018).

Thank you.