

# Nurturing tech-savvy thinkers

## NUS-ISS' Graduate Diploma in Systems Analysis prepares non-IT students for the IT industry

BY JUNE MAK

Graduates of National University of Singapore's Institute of Systems Science's (NUS-ISS) Graduate Diploma in Systems Analysis (GDipSA) often have qualities that companies such as Accenture find attractive.

This is because students from GDipSA are able to transit between business and technology better as their main degrees are often outside of technology, and they have the right exposure and experience.

For many years, Accenture has been accepting NUS-ISS GDipSA students as interns, assigning them real problems and letting them work with actual clients to deliver feasible solutions for their projects.

According to NUS-ISS, companies that receive GDipSA students as interns are likely to offer them a job at the end of the internship. More than 20 per cent of the GDipSA students who interned at Accenture have been offered full-time jobs.

Ms Ng Wee Wei, managing director of health and public services (ASEAN) at Accenture, observes the GDipSA interns to be independent, self-motivated and strong logical thinkers. Ms Ng also sits on the management board of NUS-ISS, where one of her roles is to establish links with the industry.

Dr Esther Tan, chief of the NUS-ISS GDipSA programme says: "Companies that hire GDipSA graduates get trained and motivated individuals with the ability to use technology to solve problems, bringing with them fresh perspectives and increased diversity. They can develop IT solutions with complementary skills from their previous experiences, be it advertising, teaching English or even nursing."

A crucial component of the programme is the five-month internship: Students are assigned real-life projects and are required to design solutions using .NET, C#, ASP.NET, Java EE, Java, HTML5, iOS and Android for their internship company. Students are free to choose their preferred industry and technology, or even find their own internship as long as it meets the internship requirements.

The programme is designed for non-IT graduates intending to carve a career path to the IT industry, and for IT professionals to equip themselves with the latest IT knowledge and skills to stay relevant.

The GDipSA programme is available as a stackable pathway via the four-part NUS-ISS Certificate in Digital Solutions Development. GDipSA graduates are eligible to take up a master degree with NUS and other local and overseas universities.



PHOTO: ACCENTURE

### GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

National University of  
Singapore-Institute of  
Systems Science

■ **Full-time:**  
One year

Learn more about NUS-ISS' Graduate Diploma in Systems Analysis programme at an info-session on Friday, Jan 10, 2020, 7pm at the National Library.

Scan the QR  
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information  
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