The Roles of Professional Engineers at the Institutions of Higher Learning in Nation-Building

Zambri Harun, Nor Kamaliana Khamis, Mohamad Dali Isa, Zamri Mohamed & Hashimah Hashim
Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia
Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian Institute of Aviation Technology (UniKL MIAT), Selangor, Malaysia
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), Pahang, Malaysia
Faculty of Electrical Engineering, UiTM, Selangor, Malaysia
Correspondence: Zambri Harun, Department of Mechanical and Materials, Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 43600 UKM Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia. Tel: 60-196-652-833.
E-mail: zambri@eng.ukm.my

Abstract
This paper discusses the roles of professional engineers (PEs) who are attached to the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs) and how their contributions are as important as their counterparts in the industry. This paper highlights the roles for PEs at IHLs based on a survey conducted at selected IHLs in Malaysia. Academician-professional engineers have crucial responsibilities to develop graduates who later promote safer and cutting-edge engineering solutions. These new technologies will make Malaysia an environmentally healthier place and further prepare Malaysia towards a developed nation at the end of the decade. From the survey, we conclude that PEs at IHLs make use of their professional qualifications to enhance their knowledge and provide better work quality. We also found that lecturers with these qualifications have higher confidence in their own ability to success in their careers and to face and help the public.

Keywords: professional engineers, institutions of higher learning, economic transformation programme

doi:10.5539/ies.v6n6p137 URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/ies.v6n6p137