Higher 3 Programme

Our school is participating in the Higher 3 (H3) programme that was highlighted in The Straits Times on 9 November 2005. The subject to be taught in the pilot run in August 2006 is "Introduction to Semiconductors". The course will be hosted by Hwa Chong Institution and will be offered to all junior colleges (JCs).

The H3 programme provides an extension of topics learnt at Higher 2 and prepares students who are interested in further specialization. The module provides basic foundation for students who may wish to pursue further studies in science and engineering with emphasis in semiconductor fundamentals.

Students enrolled in this module will be exposed to the essential semiconductor basics which may not be possible in the normal A-level curriculum. Students will learn and appreciate the driving force behind the convergence of semiconductors that is so vital and that every human being has to rely on each day. They will be guided through the semiconductor physics and device know-how through this important and yet basic course.

The H3 programme will be publicized to students and teachers so that students can make informed decisions on which H3 programmes fit their interests and aptitudes. The JCs retain the autonomy to select students for H3 programme since schools know best their students' abilities, just as they did previously when they select exceptional students for the "S" papers. The approved H3 subjects will be reflected soon on the MOE and NTU's websites.

Earn varsity credits while at JC

Total of 26 H3 subjects from MOE and NUS; NTU plans to offer nine subjects

BY MARIA ALMENOAR

FROM next year, students will be able to earn advance university credits while still in junior college.

This will come as a result of the A-level Special papers — taken by close to 1,500 students every year — being replaced by Higher 3 (H3) subjects.

Unlike Special or "S" papers, which are offered in 10 areas of study, H3 subjects will cover a wider range of subjects, including the arts, music and science research.

The Straits Times, 9 November 2005, Page H6 (Home).

Singapore Students Score in SEMI High Tech Program

(continued from page 22)

generate greater interest in high-tech manufacturing as well as R&D activities among the younger generation."

The students participating in the High Tech U program spent one full day in the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering on 17 March 2006. The day at NTU began with a short campus tour followed by some experimental sessions at First Year Lab C, where the students were introduced to concepts on nanotechnology and basic logic gates. The experiments were conducted by Assoc Prof Goh Wang Ling and assisted by 6 postgraduate students. In between the experiments, the students were given short tours of two EEE laboratories. The day ended with a competition amongst the 36 students - testing them on the newly gained digital electronics knowledge. The game is known as Human Calculator. By working through the logic gates as a team, a sum output can be obtained. All staff and students had a wonderful time playing the digital games.

Given the success in hosting the one day campus tour and the hands-on sessions for the secondary school students in NTU, School of EEE, SEMI Foundation firmly believes the other regions will shortly follow suit. In 2007, programs are scheduled in Grenoble, France, Japan and the United States with a return visit to Singapore.

A video clip on the SEMI High Tech U Program can be viewed at: http://www.ntu.edu.sg/eee/video/semi.asp

Acknowledgement:
This article was adapted from an article in the May 2006 issue of Semiconductor Magazine.