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Swinburne varsity students win first runner-up spot

KUCHING: A team of students from Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus won the first runner-up spot at the Smart Uni IoT Hackathon National Edition 2022 on Sept 3 this year with their award-winning idea 'Non-Zero: An IoT-based Personal Energy Harvesting Ecosystem'.

Organised by Digital Internet Association Malaysia and supported by the Ministry of Education Malaysia, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation Malaysia, National Science Week and CyberSecurity Malaysia to present and develop IoT solutions on the national stage, the themes for the hackathons spanned smart cities, agriculture and many more.

According to a statement from Swinburne Sarawak yesterday, countless teams across the nation participated in the competition, with only 25 making it through the first phase and only the top 10 being shortlisted as finalists.

The team from Swinburne Sarawak, Swinburne Research Interest Group (SRIG), comprised Paul Cornelius Bong, Eiton Ng Zie Teng and Jake Chieng Zen Yan under the supervision of the university's Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Science lecturer Dr Mark Tee Kit Tsun and the School of Information and Communication Technologies.

The initial build of the team's project saw its first steps on July 25, where the idea had begun forming.

The team proposed a system that would be able to harvest energy from everyday activities to prolong spacesuit operation time from solar to motion.

With the integration of IoT, this allowed the team to remotely study the interaction of how multiple charging sources interact with one another when simultaneously charging a single battery.

The study was critical for the realisation of this project as of now, multiple source charging would result in the destruction of some if not all power sources due to their inconsistent and fluctuating electricity supply.

"Swinburne's 2025 Vision is to bring people and technology together to build a better world, with people driven by a shared sense of purpose to create tomorrow's technology and the human talent required for a digital, tech-rich future," added the statement.

Understanding that being technologically savvy in today's world is essential, Swinburne Sarawak offers Computing courses including the Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology and Bachelor of Computer Science with an IoT Major that come hand-in-hand with Keysight Technologies for industrial relevance and internationally acclaimed professional certification.