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WOU gears up for IR4.0

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(From left) OKU student Belinda Chee Jin Wei, V. Mangayarkarasy, 71, Dr Lim Chong Eu Memorial Prize Winner Chay Foo Soon, Kamalia Tan Abdullah, 76, and Wong Seow Chee, 72, with their scrolls after the convocation ceremony. – **MASRY CHE ANI/THESUN**

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BY IAN MCINTYRE
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GEORGE TOWN: Wawasan Open University (WOU) is gearing up for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) by inculcating lifelong learning, says its vice-chancellor Prof Dr Lily Chan.

Speaking at the start of WOU's 10th convocation ceremony, Chan said as the world changes rapidly, the university needs to undergo a period of transformation to be ready for what's to come.

"We are at the precipice of another global shift within the next five to 10 years."

Up to 375 million people globally will need to find new jobs by 2030 because of automation, Chan said.

"We at WOU have to be geared for this change by continuing to evolve with new course content, continuing to adapt new learning platforms, and to stay relevant to new students."

She said WOU has found its footing by being one of the pioneering institutions of higher learning to offer distance learning at a time when the cost of traditional tertiary education is escalating globally.

She said talk about the Internet of Things (IoT) is taking place all over the world and this is something for WOU to pursue in its administration and field of study.

She added that higher learning institutions can no longer conduct their business as they have in the past as the challenges associated with IoT have to be managed to ensure an effective and immediate transformation.



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SUMMARIES

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