

Facilitator Profile

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Ishan Abeywardena is the former Deputy Dean and a Senior Lecturer in IT at the School of Science and Technology at Wawasan Open University (WOU), Penang, Malaysia. He received his first MSc in Wireless Enterprise Business Systems and his second MSc in Engineering Management from Brunel University, UK. Ishan also studied Applied Simulation in Robotics at a post graduate level at Dortmund University, Germany and holds a BSc in Computer Science from Bangalore University, India. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Computer Science specialising in text mining algorithms at University of Malaya, Malaysia.

Ishan holds the professional memberships MBCS, MIET and MIEEE. He is also a Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP). Having been in the software/technology industry prior to joining WOU, Ishan's industry experience comes mostly from UK and Sri Lanka in software development, web development, e-commerce, project management, operations and R&D. He has served in managerial and directorial positions prior to joining academia.

Ishan first started developing mobile applications using the Java Micro Edition (J2ME) platform for the Symbian operating system back in 2006. He then slowly ventured into application development for the Microsoft Windows CE OS and later for the blackberry platform. He won the Celcom League of Extraordinary Developers Mini Challenge in BlackBerry Playbook device programming in Penang in 2011. Ishan has since moved into Android app development using the AI2 platform and publishes his apps on the Google Play store under the pseudo name 'Ishan Talks Apps'. His recent AI2 apps have exceeded 40k downloads within a span of a few weeks on Google Play.