Developing skills for today's workplace

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC: What curriculum (or other) changes are needed to better prepare Singapore's university graduates for the new economy and the future of work?
Tomorrow's business IT and finance graduates are stepping into a vastly different workplace, with almost 80 per cent of accounting tasks expected to be carried out by machines according to the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants. Future roles would demand value-addition and strategic thinking as more repetitive and routine accounting tasks are automated. Therefore, universities need to equip students with a much wider range of skills and domain knowledge in order to improve their employability. To do so will require the expansion of curriculum and coursework to build strong business acumen alongside technology and communication skills. These not only equip graduates to move towards higher-value work, but also builds a workforce that is equally at home working in-person and across a distributed environment.