

## VITA

Mohammad Naim Yaakub was born in Kedah, Malaysia on October 1, 1960. After completing Advanced Level studies in England, he enrolled at the University of Wales in 1980 where he received the Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1983. In 1984, he received the Graduate Diploma in Education that enabled him to become a lecturer at Polytechnic Ungku Omar, Ipoh, Malaysia where he performed duties that included teaching civil engineering courses, evaluating students' performance, maintaining labs and machinery, and counseling students. The University Technology of Malaysia was the institution where he pursued the Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering (Hydraulics & Hydrology) in 1988 that was conferred in 1990. His next employment as a lecturer at Polytechnic Port Dickson from 1990 to 1991 saw him performing duties that included commissioning new laboratory equipment, and setting up new laboratories and residential halls. In 1991, he returned to Polytechnic Ungku Omar and served as the Development and Maintenance Officer where he planned and managed development projects, and oversaw work performed by external contractors. In 1995, He enrolled in the doctoral program in Vocational and Technical Education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). Apart from pursuing his program of study, he was member of a research team that investigated barriers to student success at Virginia Tech in which he interviewed undergraduate students in focus groups. He also developed course websites for Professors Curtis Finch and Nevin Frantz, Jr. His professional affiliations include Omicron Tau Theta and Phi Kappa Phi. He is married to Majidah and has four children: Asyraf, Akmal, Amirul, and Arif.