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Reflection on CGMA Interactive Day (CID' 19)

On 12th October 2019, an association from my course programme, Computer Graphic and Multimedia Association (CGMA) have conducted a program known as CGMA Interactive Day (CID 2019) at Dewan Sri Merbau, KTHO. It was an annual program exclusively for new first year students who have recently registered as UTM students under the course of Science Computer (Graphic and Multimedia Software). The program was organized by the senior of the course programme which are the second-year student. The program was packed with various kind of activities that were exciting and had lot of benefits for sharpening our graduate attribute skills such as kayaking, ice breaking session, and in group activities. The program was held for a day from 9.00 am in the morning until 10.00 pm at night. It was a great experience for my friends and I as we learned many new things and skills throughout the program as a participant. There was some situation that I would like to reflect based on the graduate attribute skills which are communication skills, critical thinking skills, and teamworking skills.

The first skills that I learned is communication skills. Communication skills is an ability on a person to convey or share ideas and feelings effectively to others. I noticed this skill were implemented on the program during the ice breaking session conducted during early of the program tentative. In the session, we were randomly divided into several groups according to the group name that we got on a small piece of paper. After making a group with some course mate that I still do not know well, we make some introduction about ourselves to each teammate to get us know a bit of each other. Although all the participants are in the same course, we still do not meet each other in the faculty because I am a direct intake student that automatically goes to the second-year class during entering the degree.

This situation leads me to feel scared and nervous because I was very bad at socializing with some strangers. I do not know how to start a conversation with someone that we clearly do not know or meet before. After a few minutes talking with my teammates, I feel a bit comfortable teaming up with them as I get to know them.

This situation reminds me of joining a leadership camp that been held by my secondary school. As usual in every camp, the first tentative that we will conduct is an ice breaking session. We were divided into several group that consist of my schoolmates. This situation is different from what I experienced in CID' 19 programs. This is because during my school program, the student who participated in the program are my schoolmates, so it does not pose a problem for me to randomly teaming up with them as I have known them for several years and I know each of their behaviours and their personalities. As for participating in CID' 19 programs, I do not know the background of anyone that participated in the program. I do not have a high communication skill for interacting and socializing will with strangers.

In this situation, I realise that a high communication skill effect on how fast a group can get along well and cooperate better. This is because we can socially interact with people easily even though the person is completely stranger to us. I need to be brave and reduce my fear when talking to somebody. This requires me to do more practice on talking with other strangers to improve my skills on socializing. A person who have common interest with us can make a greater bond on a relationship. This is different for teammate who have different interest that could make an awkward situation during socializing. A person who has a high communication skill will try to start a conversation and mingling with groupmates.

I have learned that I need to be more sociable and try to create a bond when I am in a group. This is because we can get along easily if we have a great bonding with a person. We also can cooperate well on finishing a certain task because we know each strength of our teammates. However, sometimes there are several people that we cannot get along with no matter how hard did we tried. We need to take extra precaution when dealing with them such as managing our reaction when dealing with their behaviour. We also need to practice emotional detachment, so the person's behaviour does not bother our mood. Improving our communication skills make many benefits to other such as preventing from unnecessary misunderstanding. If a group has a poor communication skill, it will be hard for them to complete a task according to given time.

The second graduate skills that I achieved in this program is critical thinking skills. Critical thinking skill is an ability to think in an organized and rational manner to understand the connection between ideas and facts. It helps us on deciding what to believe in. This skill was implemented during conducting group activities in the program. One of the activities that most implementing this skill was during solving a challenge for us to make a sturdy bridge by using some straws. For this challenge, we can only use tape to stick the straw together to make the bridge. We are given only twenty minutes to think the solution and start creating a bridge. The juries will test each of the group's bridge by laying some stones on the bridge. This require me to think fast and deeply to create the best design of the bridge. To solve this problem, my teammates and I brainstorming to planning the bridge's design and start building it within the given time.

I felt very stressful due to the pressure and tense because the task needed to complete in a short time. This makes me hard to think deeply and makes me less focused on finding solution until at one point I only want to think simple thing and solve it immediately even though the idea is not good. I feel this way because I am very bad at critical thinking and a stressful situation makes harder for me to think more logically on solving a solution.

This reminds me when I am brainstorming ideas during group meeting for project or assignments. I needed to make a research and think deeply to come out with an idea for the project. But somehow, the situation is very different from the current situation that I faced during CID' 19. This is because during discussing idea in a group meeting, I can take as many times as possible that I want to think about the solution without any restrictions, so I can think more deeply on finding the solution with ease. When I am participating in the program, I do not have enough time to do brainstorming on finding the best solution. It clearly shows that my skill on critical thinking in a short period is still low.

In this situation, I realise that a good critical thinking skill is very important to solve problem in a short time. Therefore, we can approach a problem in a consistent and systematic way. We also can determine the importance and relevance of arguments and ideas, so that we can save time from discussing on unnecessary information. A person with different perspectives on critical thinking skills may find it hard to keep up with discussion due to time consume on understanding the information on the discussion. A person with a good critical thinking skill can easily identify and solve problems systematically rather than by intuition or instinct.

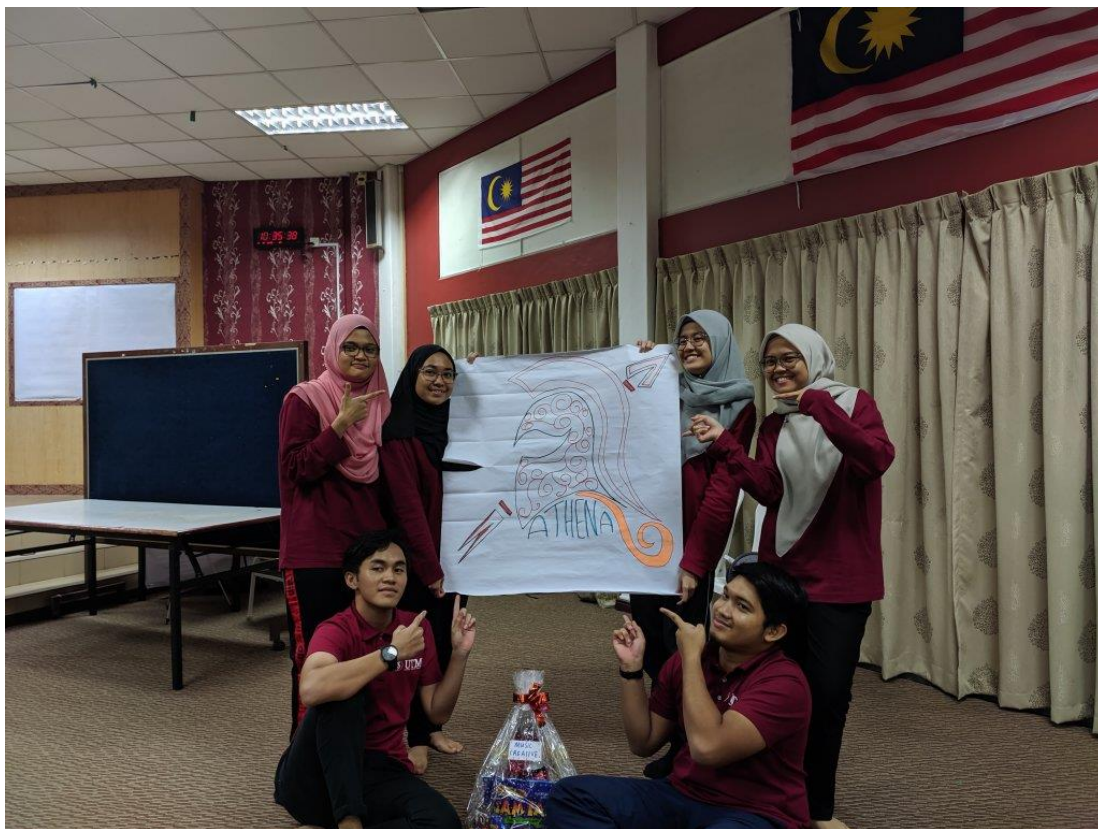
I have learned that I need to improve my skills on critical thinking so that I can produce better ideas in a short time due to adaptability on thinking deeply in a short time. I also need to keep calm when facing a problem by learning how to get things into perspective. With this, people can rely more on us on giving an immediate decision. If we do not have high critical thinking skills, we might find it hard to think on a short time.

The last graduate attributes skills that I got from this program is teamworking skills. Teamworking skill is an ability that allow you to work well with others during conversations, projects, meetings, or other collaborations. I noticed this skill were implemented during kayaking session with course mate. We needed to hold our friend's kayak to make a straight line for our friend to swap seats with others based on given instructions by leader.

In that situation, I felt very happy and energetic because we are together on achieving a task. When we are together on achieving goals, we can achieve it clearly because together make us stronger. This situation is similar when I was having a camp in Biro Tata Negara (BTN) Melaka. We are instructed to lift a big pipe for us let a ping pong ball move from point A to B. We had to have a great teamwork to move the ball to the destination.

In this situation, I realised that we need a good understanding between teammates. This is because teammate motivates unity in an area that it promotes atmosphere that fosters friendship and loyalty. In the future, I need to increase my teamwork skills, so I can complete a group task with ease. I also can increase my confidence by having a teammate that can trust us.

As for conclusion, there are several things that I learned which is applied on graduate attribute skills that are communication skills, critical thinking skills and teamworking skills. I hope that I can improvise these skills to create a better personality for myself in the future.



Reflection on SUSKOM 2020

On March 2020, Sukan Sekolah Komputeran 2020 (SUSKOM 2020) was held at School of Computing from 1st March until 7th March. The event was organised by Persatuan Mahasiswa Sains Komputer (PERSAKA) and was held once in a year. Lots of students from School of Computing participate in the event from various courses and year of study. The event was intended to encourage student's involvement in sports and strengthen the relationship between students as they come from different courses and year of study.

The event was started with E-Sports tournament handled by the crew of the activities. There were five categories of the tournaments that were PUBG, ML, FIFA 20 and DOTA 2. For the first day of the event, PUBG and ML tournaments started involving four teams from and twelve teams from ML that were held at certain venues. The tournaments were followed with COD match on the second day and finished with FIFA 20 and DOTA 2 tournament that held on 4th March until 6th March. I participated in COD match and FIFA20 which my team won the second place in the COD game. It was fun and challenging as I met more powerful opponent during the game.

Other than the tournament, the indoor and outdoor games such as badminton was held in Sport Hall 1 from 3rd March till 5th March. Meanwhile, other games such as volleyball and netball were held on 6th March and futsal on 7th March. SUSKOM 2020 also held some Extra Games which were 3km Fun Run activity with a total of one hundred student participation, Explorace & Sukaneka, and tug- of-war match between courses during the last day of the event. The highlight of the event was the closing ceremony held in Kejora Hall, N28a, School of Computing on the last day. There are several things that I learned from this program which implemented graduate attribute skills which are teamworking skills, critical thinking skills, and emotional intelligence skills.

The first graduate attribute skill that I learned is teamworking skills. Teamworking skill is an ability that allow you to work well with others during conversations, projects, meetings, or other collaborations. For this program, I have joined a group in participating in a competition which is called COD Mobile Competition. The competition consists of five groups with the amount of 5 person in a group. The competition is held in team deathmatch mode which is two team will fight each other at one time. The competition also has league fixture for the scoreboard to conclude the highest number of points gained by a group is considered as the winner. I noticed this skill was implemented in this program during teaming up with my

groupmates on winning this competition. In this situation, I need to do have some understanding with my teammates and notice each of their strength to win this competition. Therefore, I play together with my teammate on achieving the goal of the competition.

During this situation, I feel very excited and energetic when doing things together. I feel that we can achieve something that are impossible if we do it through teamwork. This is because I think that teamwork can make each person in a group stronger. This reminds me when I am playing sports with my friend in secondary school. I played volleyball with my friends to fill our free time. It was very similar to the current situation that I faced during participating in SUSKOM 2020. However, I do not have a good skill on teamworking that sometimes could affect the chemistry on a team.

In this current situation, I understand that an understanding between team members is a crucial part needed for improving our teamwork in a group. This is because we need to understand each of our own teammate's strength to work efficiently. For example, in our workplace, when combining teamwork strategies, you become more efficient and productive. This is because it allows workloads to be divided, reducing stress on individuals, and ensuring tasks are completed within the allotted time. This also enables goals to be achieved, enhances performance optimization, increases job satisfaction, and increases employment rates. In the end, when a group of individuals work together, compared to someone who is self-employed, they promote more efficient work results and are able to complete tasks faster because many minds are interconnected with the same business goals and objectives. A person who have different perspective on teamwork skills, such as those who do not want to cooperate well in a team, can affect the performance of a task that been done together. People who have a high teamworking skills could create a strong bond between their members.

I realise that I need to improve on my teamwork skills to achieve maximum potential on performance of my group. With this, my group can achieve better results on task given. This also can increase my teammate's confidence towards myself that they can fully trust to give some responsibility to me. If I do not have a high teamworking skill, fight will always occur in the group due to misunderstanding between teammates.

The second graduate skills that I achieved in this program is critical thinking skills. Critical thinking skill is an ability to think in an organized and rational manner to understand the connection between ideas and facts. It helps us on deciding what to believe in. This skill was implemented during the competition. My team and I needed to create a strategy right after

confronting the team player for the first round in the match. This require us to think critically while in a short period.

During this situation, I feel pressured and tense because I need to think fast on the best solution to overcome the opponent's strategies. Sometimes it can make me not thinking deeply that makes me conclude with a bad solution.

This reminds me when I am busy brainstorming on a meeting for group project. However, it is different than current situation because I had enough time for me to think properly during the meeting.

In this situation, I realise that a good critical thinking skill is very important to solve problem in a short time. Therefore, we can approach a problem in a consistent and systematic way. A person with a good critical thinking skill can easily identify and solve problems systematically rather than by intuition or instinct.

I have learned that I need to improve my skills on critical thinking so that I can produce better ideas in a short time due to adaptability on thinking deeply in a short time. I also need to keep calm when facing a problem by learning how to get things into perspective.

The last graduate attribute that I acquired from this program is emotional intelligence skill. Emotional intelligence skills or known as emotional quotient is an ability to understand, use, and manage your own emotions in a positive way to relieve stress, communicate effectively, empathize with others, overcome challenges, and defuse conflict. I noticed that this skill was implemented in the program when I am facing loss on the final stage of e-sports competition, COD Mobile. At first, my team has won all the competition stages. Suddenly, my team need to play extra round with second place team because one of the five teams participated has cancelled. Unfortunately, we were defeated on the last round. My team only manage to get second place on the competition. In this moment, my teammates and I need to control our emotions due to the defeat, so that we do not feel so frustrated about the competition.

During this situation, I felt very sad and frustrated because of all the hard effort my team has put through in the competition, but it vanished in the blink of an eye. To overcome this feeling, I think I need to control my emotions on grieving about the competition. This is because it could lead to worse situations such as unwanted stress or depressed.

This reminds me when I was having an intern during diploma programme in graphics design course. As a graphic designer intern, I need to create some design according to the

client's needs. Most of the client wanted to create a banner or logo for starting up their small company. Sometimes, it took many efforts on designing a logo to satisfy the client that it may took more than a week to finish it. Then, the clients cancelled on the design and wanted us to make a fresh new design from scratch. It really makes me frustrated, so I need to improvise my skill on controlling my emotions.

I understand that I need to control my emotions and learn to overcome it. This is because uncontrolled emotions or stress can impact on our mental health, making us vulnerable to anxiety and depression. A person who have different perspective on emotional intelligence struggles to form a strong relationship between their friends that can leave them feeling lonely and isolated. A person who has a strong emotional intelligence can prevent themselves from unwanted conflict and unnecessary stress.

I have learned that I need to improve on gaining emotional intelligence. This is because there are many challenges that I will face in the future, so I need to prepare my mental to overcome the problems. Emotional intelligence makes me able to withstand some tough conversation such as confronting an upset employee or angry customer. Emotional intelligence also can make us able to quickly understand someone feelings and empathise with them.

As for conclusion, there are several things that I learned which is applied on graduate attribute skills that are teamworking skills, critical thinking skills and emotional intelligence skills. I hope that I can improvise these skills to create a better opportunity for myself in the future.

