



**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING
SEMESTER 2020/2021 - 1**

ASSIGNMENT 1: SELF REFLECTION

**UKQE3001: EXTRA-CURRICULAR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
SECTION: 04
LECTURER: DR NURWINA AKMAL BINTI ANUAR**

MEMBERS:

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Run For Unity 2019 (RFU19)

On the 19th of April 2019, a fun run event by the name of Run For Unity 2019 was held in respect to educate the nation about cancer whiles providing a means for people to donate and help cancer patient in Malaysia. This program was held at Stadium Azman Hashim, UTM, Johor Bahru during nighttime from 7.45 p.m. until 10.15 p.m. RFU19 was organized by Persatuan Mahasiswa Sains Komputer (PERSAKA) collaborating with National Society Cancer Malaysia (NCSM). PERSAKA is a student organization group based on School of Computing, UTM while NCSM is a non-profit organization in which their goal is to educate, give care and support to those who are facing problems with this chronic illness. This event was a charity event in which some of the registration money was given to the NCSM organization to help those who are in dire positions and require help because of cancer. This action goes hand in hand with NCSM goals. RFU19 had two main categories which are the 6km category and the 12km category in which it can be done virtually or during the event period. Those who had registered for the virtual run for both categories had to complete the requirements needed for them to be eligible to receive the RFU19 medal. This can be accomplished by sharing their running distance to a PERSAKA representative so that they can evaluate and post the medal directly to the participants homes address. For those who registered for the physical fun run event, they would have to complete the run on the designated route that had been set by the organizers. Throughout the whole route for both categories, a few checkpoints were set to monitor all participant so that they would not get lost especially since its dark while the remaining checkpoints were set as water stations for all the participants to receive a small cup of mineral water to act as a refreshment throughout the whole route. During this event, I was stationed at one of the water stations checkpoints for the 6km category. After all the participants reached the finish line, a prize-giving ceremony was held for each category

and lucky participants that had registered during this event stand a chance to win prizes during the lucky draw sessions.

My thoughts about this event sounds something along the lines of this is like this is the biggest event that I had ever participated in as one of the working committee since it was held at Stadium Azman Hashim, UTM, Johor Bahru. I had experiences working with events within my faculty most of the time so the number of participants we usually handle was like from the same faculty or the neighboring faculty but this time around it involves participants that lives outside of UTM and around the city of Johor Bahru. The number of people who had registered for this event was a lot and we felt very fortunate that we got a lot of positive feedback from the participants who were eager to join this charity event by PERSAKA. Since this was and still is an annual event by PERSAKA, they made sure the number of participants was always as big as the last one if not more. Most of my work was done beforehand because I was involved in the publicity unit where we were in charge in spreading out the word about RFU19 to everyone around us whether it is inside or outside of UTM. We had to travel a lot so we usually went in small groups of people and planned our travels ahead of time to make sure that we can attract as many people as we can to be involved in this wonderful event.

I felt that this job had helped me to be more open and more confident in myself as I had to approach and talk to a lot of people to convince them into joining our charity event. Since my work was almost done even before the big event, I still must help around and distribute the running kit which contains the running wear, a string bag and a medal specifically made for this event. On the big day itself, I was stationed with a few of my friends at one of the water stations that had been set throughout the event. It was nice to see all the participants trying their best to get to the finish line before time runs out and for a good cause too. It was also tiring for

us at the same time because we had to fill each cup evenly so that all the participants get to drink the same amount of water throughout the route. We had to make sure that the refills came first before the water runs out so that no participants will ever get here empty-handed and left our station feeling tired or thirsty.



Even though this was the first time I have handled such huge events, I did not feel like it was somewhat a very revolutionary experience. This is because although my work involves a lot of communication with a lot of people that I do not personally know, it is not far from different than presenting something in classes or outside of it as it involves presenting about something in a short period. I had the experience of presenting my very own product during my high school years where my partner and I were given a place to set up our booth and present to the people what we had in store for them. Most of the guest if not all that came over during that event were strangers to us, but we manage to explain about our project in layman's terms, so it is easier for them to understand the purpose of our product and how to use them. Although this time around I had to walk around and approach people, that experienced still helped me to

be braver and more confident so that I can easily talk and promote about RFU19 without having to face any problems in the process.



I would say that there are always two sides of the coin here for this event as we also had to investigate the perspective of our targeted audiences as well. As an organizer, we must understand and put ourselves in the participant's shoes so that we can make a successful event for everyone to enjoy. Usually, as a participant, we do not wonder about how the management work for a program that we had participated in. We would usually only care for the program to run as smoothly as possible so that the money that we had used will be worth our while. While that is important, we can tend to get bored easily as fun run that was organized in a university environment tends to repeat itself as the route used by each event are most likely the same route. This is one of the feedbacks that we got from when we were going around and promoting the RFU19 event, so I understand why the people have those kinds of feelings. This is even more relevant for those who had attended more than one fun run or marathon events in UTM even though UTM is considered one of the biggest universities in Malaysia. Not only that but the

routes in UTM has a lot of hills to run through and not much flat surface for a full 12km category. This will most likely make all participants less likely to register for such activity like RFU19 that requires you to run around in UTM. Although we had that as a challenge to overcome so that people would be interested in joining our program, we had the advantage because we held our program during nighttime so that it will not be as hard as running under the ray of the hot sun during daytime.



I think that to overcome the complaints that we had we could try and change the venue of this annual event. Rather than doing it inside of UTM we could try and organize it outside of UTM while getting the opportunity to collaborate with the Iskandar Puteri City Council. This gives us a huge opportunity to organize an even larger event since the venue is outside of UTM and get the chance to experience collaborating with government officials. We can still organize it during nighttime as it gives use huge plus points for people to participate in, but we must make sure that the place that we are planning on picking has to have a sufficient amount of light throughout the whole route so that people don't get lost easily. It will also help us to

track all participants easily so that we can ensure the safety of every individual that will be attending for this upcoming event. Other than that, I think that time management and efficiency need to be polished to ensure that the program runs according to the planned schedule. We also must make sure that all the necessary supplies such as running kits and refreshments during this upcoming event are ready in the right amount so that no one will be left forgotten because they did not get what they were promised.



Delegation School Of Computing 2020

On the 27th of February 2020, Persatuan Mahasiswa Sains Komputer (PERSAKA) led by Muhammad Nazirul Asyraaf Halid, the director of Delegation School Of Computing 2020 (DSOC20) made a collaboration with Information Technology Club (ITC) from Universiti Tun Hussien Onn (UTHM) in organizing a visit to one of the faculty in UTHM. Representative from PERSAKA was sent to UTHM to learn and exchange information about how each faculty manage their students and courses for both university which are School of Computing (SC) from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) and Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology (FSKTM) from UTHM. The planning and preparation for this event were made the year before to ensure that we could visit during a time that both schools are not too busy with other events, tests and exams. DSOC20 program was only a one-day trip to UTHM, therefore we had to plan our time so that we could make the most out of the day of the visit. We moved out as early as 7.30 in the morning and had our breakfast on the bus heading to UTHM. When we arrived at UTHM, we were greeted warmly by the members of ITC. They took pictures of us for documentation purposes and led us to the main entrance of FSKTM for the official photography session with the Dean of FSKTM, Ts. Dr. Azizul Azhar, the Deputy Dean of Academic and International of FSKTM, Ms. Munirah Mohd Yusof, and our Student Development Coordinator of SC, Dr. Suhaila Mohamad Yusuf. After that, we were invited to go to one of their main hall rooms for the official opening ceremony for DSOC20. To start of the ceremony, Ts. Dr. Azizul Azhar formally welcomed us to UTHM and gave us a brief introduction and the history of UTHM throughout the years. At the end of his speech, he expressed that he was also looking forward to future collaboration with UTM whenever it is possible for both parties.

Next, Ms. Munirah Mohd Yusof continues the program by explaining to us about the courses that were offered in FSKTM while briefly explaining about the establishment and development of FSKTM over the years since day one. She also expresses that she felt honoured to receive a delegation team from UTM that had chosen UTHM to collaborate to make this program possible. In exchange for all the knowledge we had received from UTHM's representatives, Dr. Suhaila Mohamad Yusuf introduced to all the participants about the history of SC as well as the courses available and its academic structures that was implemented in SC. After we were done with the introduction of both schools, we continued the ceremony with the introduction to each school's student organization which were PERSAKA and ITC. This session was delivered by both the president of PERSAKA, Nurul Atiqah Piakong and the president of ITC, Muhammad Shazwan Mohd Nordin. Both the president of PERSAKA and ITC presented to the audience about the backstory of each organization and the developments they had made and the programs that they had organized throughout the years. This is so that all the participants from PERSAKA and ITC could both improve and learn from each other in organizing and managing a student organization. And with that, the opening ceremony came to a closed. The members of ITC then took us around FSKTM to visit some of the ongoing classes and the facilities that they had in their faculty. Following that, we had our lunch break and continued our journey to visit their university library which was known as UTHM Tunku Tun Aminah Library that marks the end of our visit in UTHM.

I think that this was my first experience in becoming the official secretary for any program that I had joined thus far. A lot has been gained from this experience that involves making formal letters and a lot of documentation needed to be prepared that I didn't know we need to do because I am usually just a committee member for a specific task. It opened up my eyes to see how a program is managed and the decision-making process is made in a small

committee group. Each unit has a member of not more than two people handling a specific task. As a secretary, I was in charge of getting all the documentations need from any committee members and reports for each meeting that we had made since the year before the program had even started. We also found it difficult to place a definite budget since we were only a small group committee consist of not more than 20 people in our committee organization. Not to mention the difficulties we had to face due to the covid-19 pandemic that was surging during the planning phase for this event. Nevertheless, I felt proud of our team because we manage to make this a successful event in the end even though we faced many problems that needed to be solved while planning this delegation event. I felt very grateful toward the committee member from ITC for accepting our invitation to collaborate and take us for a trip around their faculty and university. The support and hospitality that they had given to us was very much appreciated and we would like to have them over to UTM in the future to repay for what they had done for us if things goes well for both parties.

I had a similar experience in becoming a secretary for my extra-curriculum activities during my high school level, but we did not get the change to host any big event or organize a program for the masses. I knew the basics in making a full-fledged report for every meeting that we had. But apart from that, I had never done any formal writings for my organization to appeal for any program to the university's management level. Even so, it was not a difficult task to accomplish since I had the help from the official PERSAKA's secretary so that my letters are in line with the format that has been set by the university. It does take some time to get an approval for any program from the university's management level, but patience is virtue plus while waiting for it I had helped other committee members with their task if they were facing any difficulties at that moment. There were also a lot of places in UTM I had to visit for my letters to be approved so sometimes I had to walk around the university to different

management buildings to submit all of my proposals. This could be a hassle at times since I did not own any types of vehicles at the moment, but I manage to use the busses that were provided in UTM and walking is a good way to stay in shape and healthy. Most of my high school and foundation years requires me to walk for a distance and it can be tiresome at times nevertheless I had prepared myself to face such difficulties especially before I even entered a university for my degree.



There were two major problems that we had faced during the planning phase of this event which were budgets and the covid-19 pandemic. Our main source for the budget of the program was from the registration fee for those who must attend this program which are the members of PERSAKA and the delegation committee members. We manage to cut some of our initial budget proposal for the program since this was only a one-day trip to UTHM so the accommodation budget that we had initially planned was cut out completely. This had helped us tremendously so the registration fee from each participant can be cut to half the price of the initial fee. Since we had found an affordable place to buy our breakfast, we manage to cut the initial budget for breakfast. We weren't able to determine a fixed budget for our lunch break as

we had asked members from the ITC committee to pick a suitable place for us to buy our lunch and that we would only provide them the money necessary for the food. The second problem other than the budget was the emergence of the covid-19 pandemic that had to push us to change the initial planning that we had during the end of 2019. At first, we were determined to have our delegation program in Universiti Malaya (UM) and collaborate with Persatuan Komputer UM (PEKOM) in Kuala Lumpur. But since Kuala Lumpur and Johor are different state not to mention a lot of programs got cancelled because the covid-19, PEKOM had contacted us as they wanted to cancel the program due to reduce the spread of covid-19 in both universities. Because of that, we had to find an alternative solution for us to keep this program from cancelling, we reached out to ITC from UTHM to collaborate instead since they are placed not far from UTM and is still in the same state as UTM. We were very thankful that they had agreed to collaborate with us in organizing this delegation event and see through it until the end.



Even if PEKOM did not cancel our program, the delegation committee could have made a business if the budget could not be covered by just the registration fee only. We could also increase the number of participants which we did so that some student who is not in the

delegation committee or a member of the PERSAKA club could also join this event. This is because we had to fill up the bus since we rented one whole bus which can occupy for about 40 people at once and the members of PERSAKA and the delegation committee did not reach the maximum amount of passengers in the bus so we had to ask around if anyone were interested to join DSOC20. Overall, this program was a huge success thanks to all the cooperation that we had from all the participants and the generosity from the FSKTM management for letting us organize such event in their faculty.

