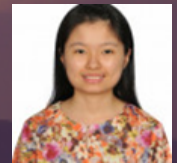


INSPIRING WORK EXPERIENCE AND COVID 19 PANDEMIC CHALLENGE

1. Adam Haqiem bin Abd Rahim (A20EC0002)
2. Brendan Dylan Gampa anak Joseph Dusit (A20EC0021)
3. Dzakirin Asyraff bin Zamsari(A20EC0030)
4. Eunice Lim Xian Ni (A20EC0034)



On the 29th December 2020, School of Computing UTM organised an alumni sharing session titled Inspiring Work Experience and COVID-19 Pandemic Challenge where 3 alumni from School of Computing shared their work experience and the challenges that they face during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tan Yong Keong is the first respondent during the session. As a successful alumnus of UTM, he has shared many tips and tricks of his succession in both curriculum and non-curriculum aspects. During his internship period, he has involved in a lot of freelancer's job.

Nonetheless, he also stressed that one should try to create a program instead of simple codes when learning new programming languages. He wrapped his talk by encouraging the students to learn extra miles and master other non-academic skills.

Mohamad Zamarul Akmal bin Mohd Hussin is the second speaker in the session. He proudly mentioned that it was because of his proactive performances, outstanding soft skills and extra technical skills during internship that enabled him to secure his job.



SPEAKER 3

Qistina Batrisyia Binti Azman Shah was the third speaker. She is an alumna of UTM in Bachelor of Computer Science (Data Engineering). She is now working for TM One in the position "Social Media Data Analyst". During her internship, she mentioned that her effort and industrious work has gave her the opportunity to work for the same company as her internship.

She has shared her tips to increase chances of getting hired during the pandemic which is to be proactive which means to find answers and solution rather than waiting for it. The second tip from her is to learn new things. Her way of learning new things is to voluntarily help other people and contribute to a lot of other projects. Qistina mentioned that her way of gaining confidence is to join a lot of programs that need her to expose herself to talk and present her project ideas.

Then she tells us how she motivate herself doing her job. She motivates herself by loving her job and it keeps her motivate her to do better. Finally, she ended the talk by telling the listeners to have fun and not stress yourself out.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that the current COVID-19 pandemic is affecting everyone in different ways no matter their background . During this sharing session, each speaker has shared their personal experience from graduating leading up to them entering the work industry to have successful career.

One of the overlapping theme that can be noted from all speakers is to be proactive by providing ideas and opinions, rather than sitting on it due to the fear of getting shot down.

Another overlapping theme is to follow the advancement of the tech industry as to not be obsolete and outdated compared to everyone else. This can be achieved by constantly learning new things by volunteering and contributing in many various project. This will also be helpful to hone our skills in broad field.

REFLECTION

Group Reflection:

This talk has given us a brief overview of the life challenges after graduation. We realized that the world outside is not as always as what we expect. As a first year student, it is important for each of us to be proactive in a lot of activities. Other than being involved in various activities, we should also learn new things that is related to our course. Hence, during this pandemic, we need to adapt with the new normal and try our best dealing with the challenges of meeting physically.

My Reflection (Brendan):

I have learned a lot of things from the talk although it has its own strengths and weaknesses. One of the strengths is that the talk motivates me to become the best version of myself as the seniors explaining their tough journey during their study. The talk also gives me suggestion on how to adapt with the outside world and the future challenges of working in industries. On the contrary, the weakness of the talk is that it is not interactive as it should since it is held online. The students might find themselves losing focus easily and boring at the same time. In a nutshell, I learned that it is important for one to start pushing and expose themselves to a lot of involvement in projects so that they will get used to the environment once they graduated. In short, they will be able to easily adapt with their working ambience.