

Alumni Sharing Session

If It Matters to You, It Matters to Us.

RM1.50

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

A JOURNEY TOWARDS THE CORPORATE WORLD

Encouraging Experience Ahmedalla Hanea Hanoura

ONLINE VENUE – In general, the talk was about the work experience after graduating from UTM. The talk was held using WebEx meeting service and included the experience of a three new graduated students Tan, Zamarul, and Qistina all of them was already hired and shared fair number of advices and knowledge about it.



A screenshot of the online meeting.

The purpose of the talk was trying to motivate and increase the fresh students' expectations about finding a job after graduating from UTM.

Reflection (Ahmedalla) As a university student I did find this talk very important for me due to its major relation to real life experience. Actually, Dr Johanna attempted and succeeded to link graduated university students with

newbies in a professional manner in all aspects. The talk included many information that I needed to know and this is a great strength point involved in the talk, and I didn't seem to see any weak points there. This talk motivated me to try my best being very successful in my career.

Great insights.

Abdellah Oussama

Key points – The talk started off by giving a general introduction of each of the four speakers, including doctor Johana who had an interesting career. After that, the speakers answered several questions, in which they were asked about different aspects of their experience, ranging from the way to get a job to the actual job:

Getting a job: the experience of getting a job for Zamarul and Qistina was pretty much similar since they both worked in the company in

which they took an internship. In fact, nowadays it has become a trend among fresh graduates to be hired by the company in which they take an internship. That's why, the overwhelming majority of experts who already found their path to the corporate world, generally advise university students to leave a good impression in the company of internship, since in most cases, that would be a great opportunity not to be missed.

The experience of Tan was quite different, as the way he found his job is by following "the traditional way", which is applying to the job through job-seeking websites. Here, it's worth saying that in most cases the traditional method is sometimes not efficient, especially for freshers, unless they have something special to offer. And that's exactly the case for Tan, whom participated in different competitions during his years in the university, alongside with working on different freelance jobs. These two factors, turned out to be extremely beneficial for Tan, and granted him a job relatively in a fast manner.

Working experience: One of the important things that the speakers mentioned regarding their work experience is the fact that they



overwhelmingly had to learn tons of new concepts and tools and even programming languages, that they weren't exposed to in the university.



Interestingly enough, this appears to be, a common theme between all freshers from all over the globe. The reason behind this phenomenon, seems to be that most universities, and especially when teaching computer science and IT in general, tend to provide students with only an overview of the available technologies and tools, and they try to focus on academic details, which is understandable given the extremely fast pace of appearance of new technologies.

Success factors: It safe to say that all the speakers agreed that soft skills are one of the key factors in getting a job that a student should focus on. In point of fact, they suggested that the employers not only emphasize the soft skills element, but also prioritize it over the technical aspect.

Another key factor, is to be active in the para-university realm, i.e., participating in different activities other than academic exigences, including competitions and learning new technologies...

Finally, doctor Johana gave the opportunity for us students to ask questions, which ironically most of them were answered during the talk. One that's worth mention here which wasn't answered before, was whether the Cgpa is important in the eyes of the employers or not. And the answer was that, it's a good thing to have a good gpa, but it's not necessary to some degree, since

many employers in this age, tend to focus more on the skills that candidates have, rather than merely assessing them by their gpa.

Reflection (Abdellah Oussama)

Firstly, I must say that this talk was extremely eye opening for me, as it corrected numerous misunderstandings and wrong views that I had before. I reckon that it was a great move from our lecturers to introduce us - junior students-, to the path that is awaiting us after 4 years, since it can prevent us from doing a lot of mistakes and prevent us from pursuing wrong paths.

Now after this talk, I think I should give big importance to the soft skills part, since most of employers give it big importance. Furthermore, I have to participate in competitions, and try to do some extra-curricular activities such as doing freelance jobs to increase my chances in getting a good job after graduation.

Summary

Osama abdelhameed

Outcomes - Tan, Zamarul, and Qistina are UTM senior students who have work experience during their final semester before graduating from UTM. They present their work experience explicitly during the session by answering Dr. Johana on high related professional questions like who are they? and how their career looks like? to introduce them.

How they got these jobs to encourage fresh and junior students by showing them how their work will look like which seems variety based on mention students, like traditional company internship or freelance work. They illustrate how an internship work overwhelms them with new concepts, tools and programming languages which

surprise the majority of listeners. Presenters agreed that soft skills are essential in work environment equally with technical and academic knowledge, in addition, to outclass activities like competitions, taking or attending talks about new technologies and public work.



Reflection (Osama Abdelhameed)

I used to attend powerful internship experience sessions they always surprise me with new knowledge in my field. This one is one of those beneficial sessions that help me to imagine my future obviously by eliminate dreaming thought and replace it with real ones. Different life experiences extend my knowledge about sub-fields related to my major. Speaking about covid-19 and its impact on their internships which represents a harmful impact on study life and economy without destroying their graduate end or story.

References:

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