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Section : 07

Task : Alumni Sharing Session (Inspiring Work experience & Covid19

Pandemic Challenge)

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Alumni Sharing Session: Inspiring Work Experience and Covid-19 Pandemic Challenge

The Technology and Information System (SECP 1513), School of Computing, University Technology Malaysia (UTM), had organized and hosted Online Classroom Talk Program Inspiring work experience and Covid-19 pandemic challenge on 29th December 2020 (Tuesday) from 10.00 a.m. till 11.00 a.m. via Cisco Webex. Students from different sections joined and had beneficial time of the talk. The talk consisted of newly graduated students of UTM, who is working at a well-known location at present. Among them, Tan Yong Keong was UTM student and he is currently working as a data engineer at Micron Semiconductor Asia. A data engineer, Mohammad Zamarul Akmal Bin Mohd Hussin is the guy who works at PPG Coating (M). At TM One, Batrisiya Binti Azman Shah works as a social media data analyst. The Moderator, Dr. Johanna Ahmadad was present during the talk (Senior Lecturer of the school of computing, UTM).

The purpose of the talk was to encourage and empower the new undergraduate students throughout this COVID19 pandemic through sharing of work experience from the alumni in the greeting speech by Dr. Johanna Ahmad as the moderator of the program. The program started with a warm welcome and introduction by the speakers. Then, regarding how they can get their job, the speakers share their journey.

The talk was arranged primarily to encourage and educate the current UTM students what exactly needs to be done to stand out. Moreover, we were able to learn how to get a better career, corporate life and what attributes one needs to have.

The first speaker, Mr. Tan Yong Keong from Micron Semiconductor Asia, advised that to get a job, we have to develop our technical skills and soft skills as well. He said that by engaging in competition during his university life, he developed all abilities and also worked as a freelancer that helped him to gain some technical skills.. He also mentioned some questions during the interview segment that will be asked by the company. Moreover, he also mentioned that being fresh graduates we have less experience therefore, majority of the interview question focus on our final year project and postgraduate project. Since Tan Yong works for a semiconductor manufacturing firm, his role is to optimize factory loading and data optimization. Based on current factory tools, he also needs to maximize consumer demand.

The second speaker is Mr. Mohamad Zamarul Akmal bin Mohd Hussin from PPG Coatings (M) shared his journey to get the current job is different from the first speaker. He said that his current company is the same as his intern company. The business was using the world of big data firms, Zamarul suggested that a system be developed that could track all jobs at once with a single click. It became his FYP for this plan. From there, he saw his boss started to pay more attention to him. Even though the organization was not recruiting, his manager approached him with a permanent employee with a job bid. This is how he began working for the organization. Like Tan Yong,Mr. Mohamad Zamarul Akmal also suggested all new students to apply for several jobs. He also added we should be happy and love our job because not everyone is able to get the same job.

The third speaker was Miss Batrisyia Binti Azman Shah of TM One, who shared that she had the same understanding as the second speaker to continue her internship work as her present job. Batrisiya says that we should not wait when you are assigned a mission or a task. Instead, we should try to find a solution, or even ask your friends about it. We should not restrict ourselves, and new things should be taught. She often mingled herself with people and contributed to places where she could learn a lot of things that helped her. This the reason, her manager appreciates her activities, accepting that no one is working on a project that makes her have a chance to continue working in the same company.

Throughout the session the speakers tried to motivate and advised us how we should utilize our valuable time of university life. They advised us to keep ourselves in a learning flow and we are also advised to learn different skills besides our university main course because in future this will help us to create an impressive resume.

Zamarul stated that we cannot run from soft skills so we need to have adequate communication skills. A few example, include: idea sharing, teamwork skills, the ability to be easy going and to be able to plan with people. It will be easier to handle errors and solve issues if discussed with teammates.

REFLECTION:

SHAH SAJID:

In my own point of view, this talk helps undergraduate students to have a straightforward way to make a job even more successful in that job, but to find ways to solve problems when they face it during their work time that is shared by alumni may not be appropriate for everyone but can act as an idea to accept it. After taking part in this talk, I know that the most important skill is the technical skill.

Hassan Mustafa:

The session was full of insightful knowledge from our seniors who have already been through university life, I don't think there are any flaws in the session. To me, it's all insightful things like I, as a student, could concentrate more on my CGPA, technological skills, soft skills, and participate in more competitions during the university trip. I was inspired to drive myself to the limits to prove myself during my internship and increase my knowledge in the field so that I could get a better chance to get a job after graduation either in the same company or in another company., last but not least they all agreed that we should enjoy our time during university journey and make friends and improve our social skills.

G M Shaheen Shah Shimon:

First of all I would like to thank UTM for arranging such informative and inspirational session especially for fresher. We learned that we have to keep ourselves motivated and gathered with new learning materials. Moreover, we have to believe in ourselves whenever we fail and hard work is the main weapon to defeat the failure. Besides, we learnt the importance of soft skills beside of hard skill because this helps us to keep our jobs. The important soft skills that are necessary for our career such as adaptability, communication skill and etc. We got all the information from our immediate seniors that have just graduated. But we were not able to hear the older and more experienced alumni's thought on the matter. Overall it was a very good and informative session nonetheless.

MUHAMMAD SYAZWAN BIN SAHDAN:

This talk had provided me with the imagination of how industrial training would be. Some of the strengths of the talk are that they share with us some important tips on how to be employed as early as from the industrial training process. We need to learn new technical skills and enhance our soft skills to excel in the interview. Another strength is that they managed to give us the confidence and motivation to learn and explore new things. I can barely see any weakness but there is one which is I expect that the talk will cover more on specific competitions that we can participate in and specific skills that are needed to be enhanced during our studies. Basically what I had learned is that I need to carefully monitor my studies. First-year is where I need to join the competitions and gain experience from it. Other than that, I learn how to enhance my soft skills by blending with others not restricted to my faculty but also other faculty.