



Alumni Sharing Session (Inspiring Work Experience & Covid-19 Pandemic Challenge) Report

Technology and Information System (SECP1513) - Section 07

Done by : Group-05

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NEWSLETTER

UTM ALUMNI SHARING SESSION

DECEMBER 29, 2020 – A talk has been held online for UTM undergraduate students regarding the inspiring work experience and Covid-19 pandemic challenges. The talk held was purposely to enrich students with the experiences obtained by the employed UTM alumni in the current pandemic situation. The current dire situation made most of the people lost their job and having hardship due to it. With the sharing session, students could acquire some insight into getting a job and motivated in continuing their studies. The sharing session started with the alumni's experiences sharing about the work environment as well as the fundamental skill that the employer is looking for. It then proceeds with the alumni advising the student to ensure the student's employability and readiness in a new working life. Problem solving and confusion explanation was appended at the end of the talk.

UTM School of Computing

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER ALUMNI
SHARING SESSION:

**INSPIRING WORK EXPERIENCE
AND COVID 19 PANDEMIC
CHALLENGE**

**29th DECEMBER
2020**
TUESDAY
10:00 to 11:00
AM

Dr. Johanna Ahmad
Senior Lecturer
School of Computing UTM

Batrisyia Binti Azman Shah
Social Media Data Analyst
TM One

Teo Wen Long
Software Engineer
Quman Intelligence

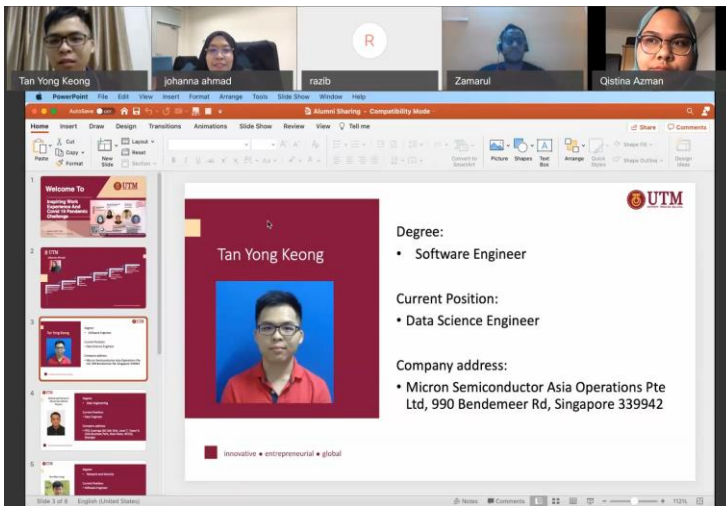
**Mohamed Zamarul Akmal
bin Mohd Hussin**
Data Engineer
PPG Coatings (M)

Tan Yong Keong
Data Science Engineer
Micron Semiconductor Asia

ORGANIZED BY: Technology and Information Systems (SECP 1513), School of Computing, UTM

It goes without saying that the alumni of an educational institution are the torch-bearers for its current students and future graduates. Their shared experiences and advice can impact a student's life in ways none can imagine. This one-hour long talk was hosted by a senior lecturer Dr. Johanna Ahmad, where three successful alumni of the school of computing shared their academic and work life experiences, challenges and the ways to cope with them, valuable advice and answered to different questions from the current 1st semester students of the school of computing.

All the alumni share their stories about how they were able to land a job after graduation. The story of Jamarul getting a job is different than that of Tan Young. He got a job as a permanent worker in his industry training company. He constantly expresses himself by sharing valuable ideas and opinions. In the current organization he works in his internship company. During the internship, he was offered to create a monitoring dashboard. The company was using the environment of big data organizations, so lots of data was being transferred every day but at that moment they were using manual monitoring using big data tool. Jamarul proposed to create a system that can monitor all the work at once with a single click. This proposal became his favourite. From there, he sees his supervisors begin to pay more attention to him. Although the company is not yet taking him as the permanent worker, his supervisor offer him a job as a permanent employee. That's how he started working for the organization. Like Jamarul, Batrisia also had a similar case. After the internship he was given a position. During the internship, he put in a lot of effort to join real life projects. From there, his supervisor wanted him to join the organization to further the project. Made by Batrisia, the dashboard for the project and its efforts were praised. His project was a social media project and had to gather social related data. He explains that information in the media data and dashboard for the company's clients. The dashboard was then used to improve marketing-based branding of clients. Since Tan Young works for a semiconductor manufacturing company, his



job is to work on factory loading optimization and data gathering. He also has to adapt to the market demand based on the existing factory equipment.

First, it was a perfect conference for us. It was presented to us online in this epidemic. Most newcomers tend to be overwhelmed within the first year of the semester and we rely on our seniors on campus. But they themselves are busy with their own work, assignments and studios, and because of that they unfortunately cannot invest a lot of time among us. They are able to guide us in the way that we will not lose our footing and this was the bright side of the meeting because we are now well aware of what we should or should not do. Overall, the meeting was really informative, although there was one issue that was somewhat lacking. We have received all the information from our seniors who have just graduated, but we have not been able to hear the thoughts of older and more experienced alumni on this subject. The main thing that was missing was that none of the alumni talked about what they had undergone during the time of the epidemic and how the whole Covid-19 situation affected their working life.

The main thing we learned from the alumni sharing session is that we can't lose hope and confidence when we fail. Be as active as we can. The secret is to work from the bottom of the list by eliminating issues that are not worth the fight. Another issue is how we need to learn to communicate in the situation and be adaptable. It is an important skill that will help in both university and career because the more we communicate the more we are able to see our mistakes and from there we can learn from them. Also, for a student in engineering courses, we have to learn all kinds of new things like new techniques, new skills and how to develop them

effectively. Because learning new things means that you are becoming more easier to change. By developing a growth mindset and believing you can learn new things, you will be able to adapt more to the changes that are taking place around you. You will be more willing to adopt new ways in order to work in this era. In the age of full with competition, grades are important and if we do not have practical experience, theory itself could not guarantee the employment.

The sharing session also includes a session of the UTM alumni giving advices and tips for the freshman to aid them in any way possible. "If anyone want to be success, every day he needs to focus on his purpose. Everybody should remember about what he do and why. Most of them get burned out because they forget why they do it. If anyone steadfast in his goals and move forward with determination, success will be come. A lot of successful person already set this example. Their inspiring activities have made them brighter. So, if anyone make his life more celestial, he should follow their path," said one of the UTM alumni to the viewer.

The talk end with Q and A session for student that has complication and curiosity about the current work environment and other issues related to the topics.

Reflection

Radin Nazhan (A20EC0136)

1. The talk gives a good insight into the work environment or life. Its strength is the wonderful sharing session also points out the skill needed to survive or to be employed by the company. It also includes several opinions from a different person in certain problem discussion. But the talk also has its foible. As the sharing session is well organized, it also lacks certain important parts such as the salary part and also the competition faced with another person. That information should be shared as it is one of the main factors in choosing a job.
2. The alumni gave me a lot of motivation and insight. One of those is regarding the importance of the CGPA factor in interview or job employment. Based on the talk, most private company does not put too much stress on it, unlike the government company. As long as the skill related to do sector is well known, then the private sector will consider hiring. Other than that, they also explain the fundamental requirement such as programming language. The usage of the programming language varies for each project and intention. Last but not least, they also shared about the motivational part such as the hardship and obstacle that will be facing. According to their talk, everything has its specific hardships and we need to bear them until success is seized.

Farhana Tahseen (A20EC4015)

The thoughts shared by the alumni inspired me a lot. It provided me with a strong motivation to study for gathering knowledge and improving skills, not only for achieving good grades in the exams. After attending the talk, I have finally realized that nothing can stop you from achieving success in life if you consistently work hard, be honest and believe in yourself.

Md Faridul Islam (A20EC4030)

It is expected from the session that it will help the students to find a new way of viewing things. It is also expected that the new students who just joined the university and new to the subject and not sure about the upcoming outcome of their courses, might find a way of viewing the future with a great positivity by seeing them.

Md Masqurul Hasan (A20EC4031)

The meeting was really informative. We got all the information from our immediate seniors who have just graduated. It was also inspiring. I enjoyed the session.



FARHANA TAHSEEN



FARIDUL ISLAM



RADIN NAZHAN



MASQURUL HASSAN