I think the Kitchen vs Restaurant analogy in the Week 1 Cultural Discussion was very helpful in framing my mindset and I appreciate that DBC places such a high value on the ethics, values, and cohesiveness of the students. Obviously, I absolutely love programming and technology; as we all do for many reasons, like for improving our quality of life, efficiency, entertainment, and access to data and information previously unthinkable. However, all benefits and advancements come at a cost, and the price often paid for the rapid technological advances in our society is that it can decrease quality personal interactions and even create fragmentation in society.

I believe DBC is a very special organization in that it has very high expectations, yet it places a very high value on genuine, kind, personal interactions built on respect and personal accountability. I believe that these principles make up the core of any successful community or organization, yet very lacking among most. These are the principles that will also help ensure a smooth interaction with our future programming team once we become fully employed.

It would be utopian to think that there would ever be a job or environment where inter-personal interactions don’t lead to misunderstandings; perhaps leading from a misunderstanding of the expectations of a project, or perceived imbalances of apportioned workloads, or a myriad of other factors. Having the proper mindset and inter-personal skills are crucial for fostering the ideal environment for harmony and success both in our personal and professional lives.