



TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

Computer Engineering Department

CPE 008

Computer Engineering as a Discipline

Reflection on our Interview with Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez

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Introduction

For this interview, we aimed to gather practical insights from an experienced graduate about navigating the Computer Engineering program and transitioning into the industry. We interviewed **Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez**, a Batch 2023 Computer Engineering graduate from the Technological Institute of the Philippines – Manila (TIP Manila). He shared valuable reflections on the skills he wishes he had learned earlier, such as software development methodologies, DevOps practices, and Git, along with how he chose his Cybersecurity elective, the key subjects students should focus on, his strategies for handling pressure, and the essential technologies and programming languages every CPE student should master.

Summary of the Interview

Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez emphasize the importance of learning software development methodologies early, especially Agile, Scrum, CI/CD, and Git, which would have greatly improved project efficiency and collaboration during college. Their choice of the Cybersecurity track was influenced by industry demand and personal interest, and they have no regret as the skills remain relevant and valuable. OOP was highlighted as a foundational subject that makes advanced frameworks and languages easier to learn. When handling pressure, **Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez** rely on structured planning through task planning and review session to stay organized and continuously improve. Lastly **Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez** encouraged us (CPE Students) to master Git and build strong knowledge in AI and machine learning, as these technologies now play a major role in modern training and development.

Personal Reflection

Acala

What struck me most from the interview was how important real-world skills like Agile, DevOps, and Git are, and how much they could have made school projects easier if learned early. Hearing Engr. Sanchez's experiences made me reflect on my own goals and pushed me to take foundational subjects such as OOP more seriously. I was also inspired by how he chose his Cybersecurity track based on both passion and industry demand, showing that career decisions can be both practical and meaningful. Moving forward, I plan to apply his advice by improving my version control skills, managing my tasks more effectively, and exploring emerging technologies like AI to better prepare for my future career.

Arididon

What caught my attention most in the interview was how practical skills like OOP, Git, and planning can make a big difference in real projects. Listening to Engr. Sanchez made me think about how I can prepare myself now, even as a student, to be ready for future work. I found it inspiring that he chose Cybersecurity based on both his interests and the job market, which reminded me that I was also once interested in Cybersecurity when deciding what course to take in college. I was surprised by how much structured planning, like breaking tasks into smaller steps, can help manage pressure and stress. From his advice, I plan to focus on learning these skills early, staying organized, and exploring new technologies like AI so I can build a strong foundation for my career.

Rebagos

What struck me most in the interview was how important foundational skills like Git, OOP, and development methodologies are, even early in the course. **Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez** story made me rethink my own academic path, reminding me to choose subjects that match both my interests and future industry needs. I was also inspired by his use of structured planning to handle pressure, showing that good habits can make a big difference in productivity. From this, learned to start building essential skills early, stay open to growing fields like a AI, and manage my tasks more intentionally as i move forward.

Bautista

What struck me the most was the amount of skills and applications I have to learn from this journey as a CPE student. Using methodologies like Agile, Scrum, CI/CD, and iteration planning could have helped me significantly during my projects/activities efficiently and organized. Listening to Engr. Sanchez made me think carefully about my elective track and ask myself if this is the track I truly wanted, and it also made me focus and study more on important topics and courses. I was inspired about how he chose his track, as he chose it both for demand and personal interests, because, so far, I neither had any interests on any track and unsure which ones are high in demand. I will apply his lesson by managing my tasks efficiently, improve my understanding of tech, like AI, and put more effort in studying and focusing on skills and courses.

Medina

Listening to Engr. Carl Joshua Sanchez was nerve-wracking, for the reason that he was an actual engineer. However, there wasn't really any fear nor intimidation, it was the idea that the person that spoke to us was someone who has been in the industry, someone who has the proper knowledge and skills with valuable information to share, and I was both excited and intrigued by their answers. What surprised me the most was Engr. Sanchez' insights on the importance of Git and his suggestions on workplace practices. I had occasionally encountered Git from time to time and most recently at one of my subjects under the course, CPE-201A. I never thought that it was actually that important and thought that it was just some tool that I would probably never use again.

Moreover, I admire his input about workplace practices, as his approach, segmenting and breaking down big tasks to smaller modules is already a tactic I use whenever I encounter a project and don't have the motivation nor sureness on where to start. Additionally, I realized after listening to Engr. Sanchez' answers that my biggest flaw is my self-discipline, which I plan to fix by applying the knowledge that I've learned from this activity. I actually asked Engr. Sanchez on how he managed on choosing his track elective as even now, I'm having trouble on being sure on which I should pick. His answer was that he focused on what was on demand and was trending on the time which, of course, is quite intuitive but it also made me realize that there are many more other factors other than what you may feel on what the right path is for you when deciding on these kinds of things, and this information will surely help me a lot in my future as a Computer Engineer. Overall, my views on my future in this course has been positively affected and I plan to apply everything I learned moving forward.

Connection to Course or Program

The interview connects with the course itself through the process by means of ensuring that what we're learning is actually valuable for our future professions. The encouragement, insights, and industry knowledge that we've gained through the activity doesn't only challenge us. It reinforces our path in the journey that we're currently going through and allows us to think more deeply into what we're doing in the now. That there are much more things to consider when it comes to the actual thing and the only way to pull through is to stop being close-minded. It's that you have to do what's important today, to think like an engineer, and take all the advice we can get to develop not only the theories that we may learn along the way but also the actual practical skills that matter in the field.

Conclusion

Overall, the interview with Engr. Sanchez was very insightful and gave us a better understanding of what skills and habits are important for our future career. It made us realize the value of preparing early, staying organized, and focusing on both personal interest and industry demand when making decisions. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn more from his experiences, and we hope to apply his advice as we continue our CpE journey. This experience also motivated us to keep exploring new technologies and to develop a strong foundation on our careers.

Appendices

