**City University of Hong Kong**

CS3343 Software Engineering Practice

Self-Assessment Report

Project Title: Club Management System

**Group**: 2 **Tutorial** **Session**: L01

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**WANG KA CHUN KEVIN 55229123**

CS3343 is the first project that I had experienced professional and large scale software projects. After forming the group, we need to have a well-planned schedule due to all the teammates are internship students, we had tons of workload besides schoolwork. A well-organized timeline can have the project timeline in control. We first decide on our project title and done lots of research about it. Therefore, we came out with a project outline, which has different main functions need to work on. As a project manager, I need to distribute the work evenly and effectively. During the whole project period, I had learned a lot that will help me in my future career.

First, efficient communication between the team. We use online instant messager, like Whatsapp, for our communication media. It works well that we can monitor and keep track of the progress between ourselves. Also, if we engage with any difficulties, we can address it immediately and discuss it together. It can profoundly increase our work efficiency and reduce our workload.

Secondly, meet the target and timeline. Meeting deadlines are crucial for working projects under a tight schedule; a slightly off-schedule can cause a butterfly effect that failed the whole project. We used a Gantt chart for our proper timeline design. Also, set up different phases of the software completion; we must have a release under a specific date. After setting these deadlines, we will know our goal and will not go offside and out of control.

Thirdly, since our team only consists of three teammates, which we must have good use of human resources. We tried to divide jobs based on our abilities; for example, some of us are good at programming, good at drawing diagrams, and good at management and documentation. Therefore, we can do our best and produce the best quality of work, results in excellent teamwork.

In conclusion, concurrently working in an internship and studying is a hard time since the workload is doubled, but what I learned in the lesson can also be applied in my job. While I am doing projects in my company, I can help a lot with documentation and design stuff. Also, I can have effective communication with my colleagues, which can highly increase the efficiency of my work. It has been a long journey of my year three study, but it still is a happy year that can learn hard and soft skills.

**WONG SIU FAI 55223247**

The CS3343 software engineering practice group project is my first true glimpse of the real software development processes from start to finish. The planning, the designing, the implementing, testing and documenting adding up to a holistic view of what a sophisticated practice it is. First, a plan is essential. Without proper planning, we would have a hard time to move forward from one step to another. Previously, I participated in a lesser project that did not have proper planning and implementation would miss out. A specific part of designing would be inefficient. This time, with appropriate planning, the whole project moves forward quickly and smoothly without any troubles. And it shows how imperative a good plan is and how it makes or breaks the process. That would be the first major lesson I got from the project.

The second most quality lesson was the significance of effective communication with a teammate, the projects that I worked on before usually goes like this: planning the scope and each members job, then we do the part ourselves in solitude, resulting in a lot of overlapping function and people dissatisfied with each other’s work.

Without excellent communication, people do not know what each other was working on, and instead of being able to comment on possible improvements while people are developing the program, people have to wait till the project is almost done and up for release to comment on likely changes. This time, however, we communicate consistently with a lot of purposes. We would take a step back, stop and have a holistic look at the current schedule to make a judgment on where we are in terms of progress wise to see if we need to catch up in time or we can take a step back. These productive communications truly helped us a lot to make progress, and it is an excellent lesson for me to learn and future endeavors.

Thirdly, I learned about the weight of being on time or earlier under the schedule. During the project span, we worked hard to make sure we met the timeline with a few days to spare. And all that buffering would later prove to be extremely important. Right around one week from the deadline, I suffered a very heavy common flu. I was having nausea, headache, and so on, forcing me to be bedtime for three days straight and massively set back the progress of the project, however, due to us being ahead of schedule. We are still able to have some time left to take a step back and review our work. This had taught me an essential lesson in the importance of doing things early and give myself spare time.

There are quite a few hardships during the development of the project. Luckily we can handle them with too much of a trouble.

The first trouble we had with the project is the lack of human resources with the team, despite needing to handle such big project, we only have a small group (3 members) to work with. Each of us needs to work extra hard with multiple parts of work. Also, we need to temper our expectations about the project, we cannot do too much, or else we will risk not being able to finish to project in time. Overall, it is quite a rough venture for me as each one in the team got a higher workload than the usual project we participate in. However, it is still a good learning experience.

The second trouble I had personally was the sickness I suffered during the building period, and it was indeed a rough experience being bed tied while knowing that a deadline is coming up, luckily my teammates are all extremely helpful for me, they took some of the workloads off me and communicated well with me, allowing me to transition back into working on to the project efficiently, without much things to catch up and understand with.

The final trouble is the problematic nature of trying to balance the internship time with the time in working with the project, as both the placement work and the project require a lot of learning and attention, both take a massive amount of time to be dealt with. The approach I took was trying to have a set schedule partner with incremental steps on. For example, I would set a 30-minute window for me to do the project with the goal I want to accomplish for the period. Luckily it worked quite well for me.

All and all, I learned a lot from the project, from working with others, different works time balances, sticking on schedule, effective communication, and overcoming hardship, all of which are the lesson that would help me a lot in future endeavors.

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It is my first time doing a professional application project, from deciding what software to produce, to develop and improve the software using different tools and finally complete a product that has a bug report. It is much different from a standalone program because of the scale of application and size of the production team.

During the whole semester, I have to handle both the placement work and this project. Therefore, a well-planned schedule is a must if I do not want to be a deadline fighter. I learned to complete a project base on the schedule step by step. In this way, I can ensure that I can complete all the tasks before the deadline.

When it comes to team communication, it is way harder than I thought at the beginning of the course. As it is not a program that can be completed on my own, I have to update the code to Github every time I made some changes to make sure that we are developing the same version of the program. I experienced different development tools, like JUnit and Eclemma. Moreover, my teammates and I have to communicate in Whatsapp regularly so that we can understand how the application is developed and what our next step should be. These kinds of experience and skills can help me a lot in the future.