Faculty Computer Engineering – Intern

Reflection

Bachelor's degree in applied computer science
Application development

Jarne Dirken

THOMAS MORE

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1   INTRODUCTION

This document presents a comprehensive reflection on my international internship experience at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL) in Thailand. The reflection is divided into two main sections: a substantive reflection on the project carried out during the internship, and a personal reflection on my overall experience.

The Substantive Reflection section will provide an in-depth analysis of the internship project, detailing our accomplishments, the impact of the project on the client's organization and its users, the current status of the project, and suggestions for future improvements. This section aims to demonstrate the technical and practical outcomes of our work and how it has addressed the client's needs.

The Personal Reflection section will explore the personal growth and development I experienced during the internship. It will highlight the competencies I gained, the challenges I faced, and how I overcame them. This section will also discuss how the internship has prepared me for my future professional career and the skills I have acquired that will be valuable in any professional setting.

2   SUBSTANTIVE REFLECTION

In my eyes, I can confidently say that the internship was a success. Everything they asked for has been carried out.

During this internship, we successfully addressed the key requirements outlined by KMITL for a borrowing system. Our web application provides a streamlined process for students to borrow various items, from laptops to screws, within designated hours. The system includes an approval process, ensuring that all borrow requests are monitored and approved before students can collect items. This feature addresses the previous system's issue where items often went missing due to lack of oversight.

The new platform boasts a sleek and modern user interface, making it user-friendly for both students and administrators. By implementing an intuitive design, we have significantly improved the usability of the system, ensuring that students can easily navigate the borrowing process and that administrators can efficiently manage the inventory. The clear and organized interface reduces the time and effort required to locate and borrow items, enhancing the overall user experience.

While the core functionality of the project has been fully implemented and the system is already in use. Continuous feedback from users will be essential for ongoing improvements. Regular updates and maintenance will ensure that the application remains robust and meets the evolving needs of KMITL. Engaging with users to understand their experiences and challenges will help identify areas for enhancement, ensuring the system remains effective and user-friendly.

The application has already been deployed and is actively being used by students and staff at KMITL. This immediate adoption highlights the system's effectiveness and the positive impact it has had on the borrowing process. The new system's ability to track and monitor borrowed items has significantly reduced instances of lost or misplaced items, thereby improving inventory management and accountability.

Reflecting on our internship project, I can confidently say that we have successfully achieved our goals and delivered a valuable solution to KMITL. The new borrowing web application addresses the shortcomings of the previous system and provides a more efficient and user-friendly platform for managing inventory. By continuing to refine and enhance the system, KMITL can ensure that it remains a vital tool for both students and staff, facilitating a smooth and efficient borrowing process.

3   PERSONAL REFLECTION

My internship in Thailand was a great experience that went beyond professional development. It allowed me to discover a new culture and understand different approaches to problem-solving. This experience has significantly prepared me for a professional career after graduation.

The international environment at KMITL greatly improved my English proficiency, as it was the primary mode of communication with Thai colleagues. Additionally, my communication and leadership skills were honed during this internship. Initially, I found it challenging to contact and make appointments to my Thai counterparts, who have a more relaxed work ethic. However, I learned to adapt my approach to ensure timely and effective communication, which is a valuable new competency I acquired.

The work setting was conducive to learning and collaboration. We worked in a lab alongside other students, including master's and Ph.D. candidates, which provided a supportive environment where help was always available. Observing their dedication, with some working late into the night, inspired me to stay focused and motivated on my tasks.

One area that could have been improved was the feedback on our coding practices. While we received extensive feedback on the final outcomes, there was little attention given to the quality and optimization of the code itself. In Belgium, clean and optimized code is highly valued, so it would have been beneficial to receive more guidance in this aspect.

Personally, this internship has been a significant growth experience. Stepping far out of my comfort zone, I faced uncertainties about how things would unfold. Meeting new people and advocating for myself to successfully complete the internship was immensely rewarding. I am grateful for this opportunity, which has made me more confident and resilient.

Moreover, the challenges I faced were not limited to technical issues. Adapting to a new cultural context, dealing with communication barriers, and learning to communicate professionally were all part of the journey. I addressed these problems by being patient, open-minded, and proactive in finding solutions. This experience has taught me to be adaptable and resourceful, skills that are crucial for any professional setting.

In conclusion, the internship in Thailand has been a valuable chapter in my personal and professional development. It has equipped me with improved language skills, enhanced leadership abilities, and a deeper understanding of working in a multicultural environment. I am confident that these experiences will serve me well in my future career as I might be planning on moving to France later.