VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
Te Whare Wānanga o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui

School of Engineering and Computer Science
Te Kura Mātai Pūkaha, Pūrorohiko

PO Box 600
Wellington
New Zealand

Tel: +64 4 463 5341
Fax: +64 4 463 5045
Internet: office@ecs.vuw.ac.nz

Work Experience Reflective Report

Niels Daniel Clayton

Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for
Honours of Electronic and Computer System Engineering.

Summary

Over the summer of 2020-21 I worked as a research assistant at the Robinson Research facility. In this position I assisted a current PhD student to build a robotic data collection platform, and worked closely with a large group of professionals both at the facility and across New Zealand. This experience has helped me to develop and improve on a range of important professional skills that are invaluable to the progression of my degree.

Through my time at the Robinson Research facility I was involved in both small scale, and large scale multi-company projects. From these projects I have learned that the key skill required to effectively contribute to a team are communication, and management of time, work, and others. I have found that these soft skills I have developed at this position are not only applicable to work, but also to my personal and university projects.

Contents

1 Introduction 1

2 Providing Context 1

3 Reflecting on the Experience 1

4 Conclusions 1

Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge my supervisor Dr Fiona Stevens McFadden for the management and general advice she provided me with for the extent of this position. She made sure that I always felt comfortable in my work environment, and was always willing to give advice for any issues I encountered. She has also provided me with opportunities to work on a range of different projects over this time. I would also like to acknowledge the PhD student I was assisting in this time, Payam Nori Zadeh. He greatly encouraged me to expand my way of thinking and pushed me to learn new and helpful skills.

1 Introduction

2 Providing Context

3 Reflecting on the Experience

4 Conclusions