

# **Reflection on Our Interview with Engr. Baldivia**

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**CPE 008-CPE11S5 - Computer Engineering as a Discipline**

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## **MEMBERS:**

Larracas, Jerry Matthew Luz L

Mendoza, Roy Gabriel I.

Pangilinan, Bienvenido Jr. B.

Pellazar, Stephen Kurt R.

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Submitted to:

**Engr. Ji Han Gang**

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**Technological Institute of the Philippines**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

As part of our exploration regarding the graduate life of a graduate student under the Computer Engineering program , we have interviewed Engr. Baldivia, a BS Computer Engineer graduate from the class of 2010 of Technological Institute of the Philippines - Quezon City. The interview covered his goal that he has and the cause of why he chose the Computer Engineering program over other programs that exist. We also managed to learn about his journey after graduating, from some simple problems or challenges he encountered on his path, to the solutions he did and created to solve and conquer them. We also have gathered some suggestions regarding the tips on what we should do, should we graduate as a computer engineer, like what companies or countries we should go and avoid if we want to go abroad, and other advice.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INTERVIEW**

The interview went well, and it provided us a clear understanding of the challenges and experiences faced by the alumnus, particularly the challenge of finding a job after graduating as a Computer Engineer. The alumnus also explained that being a Computer Engineer often requires adaptability and willingness to handle different responsibilities, but he also noted that these challenges helped him grow professionally and socially. What the alumnus interested him most about Computer Engineering was the wide range of opportunity it offers to the individuals, allowing them to explore various paths and continuously develop new skills.

Despite the demanding nature of the program and career, Engr. Baldivia preserved by staying positive and trusting in God's guidance. During his lowest moments, his faith served as a foundation, which helped him move forward with patience and hope. He emphasized that learning through challenges step by step allowed him to gain maturity and strength to further overcome other obstacles and challenges calmly and effectively. She believes that being a computer engineer is enjoyable, meaningful, and capable of fulfilling the dreams of those who remain committed and prayerful. Lastly, he finished the interview with a quote, "If you dream to be successful, pray it to God. He will put you there in His time."

## **PERSONAL REFLECTION**

From Engr. Baldivia's interview, our group made a realization that this program is not for everyone who just wants to have an engineering career or degree, but it is for those that have a goal that they have in mind already that would require this program for them to be able to accomplish that goal. Computer Engineering is quite expensive here in the Philippines

and sometimes cannot easily find a job after they graduate, but there are stronger opportunities in other countries, compared to here in the Philippines.

His story also influenced how we view our own academic and career goals. Learning that Computer Engineering can be expensive in the Philippines and that job opportunities may not always be there, was enlightening about our future. However, the possibility of stronger opportunities abroad was inspiring, making us realize that the field can be an open global opportunity if we prepare well and remain determined to the goal and path that we have. His emphasis on perseverance, steady learning, and trusting God's guidance encouraged us to approach our studies with more seriousness, patience, and resilience.

The most meaningful lesson we plan to apply to our journey that we have learned is the value of staying focused and consistent, even when challenges arise. His advice about trusting God's timing and learning step by step reminded us that success is built gradually through experience and hard work. Moving forward, we aim to strengthen our skills early, explore different areas within the field, and pursue our goals with both dedication and faith.

## **CONNECTION TO PROGRAM**

The interview made us realize that this profession or program should be done with complete focus, not like just listlessly being in school, but we should really focus on the work, and try to find another possible job that is applying what we have learned as a Computer Engineering student. The interview also enlightened us that we should already make connections to other Computer Engineers, so that we could easily find a job, or at least let them be our reference in the future. Lastly, by continuing on this path to being a Computer Engineer, we would face the challenge of AI doing our job, or maybe even replace us, by keeping this in our mind, We should preemptively look for a another side hustle that AI would not be able to do, but according to Engr. Baldivia, since we still have some connections to Electrical Engineering, we could still apply to my work, even in other countries.

## **CONCLUSION**

The interview with Engr. Baldivia made us understand more about the true demands and rewards of pursuing computer engineering, showing that to achieve such an incredible and successful journey requires adaptability, perseverance, hard work, and strong faith in God in order to overcome the challenges that we often encounter in the course that we've experienced. Engr. Baldivia emphasized the importance of staying

focused, building connections to others, continuously improving our skills to prepare for the opportunities that we will take when the time comes both locally and abroad. Thus, his experiences remind us that in order to be a successful computer engineer in this field, we need to have dedication, perseverance, determination, and trust in God.

## APPENDICES



Figure 1: Screenshot of the Interviewee with the Interviewer



Figure 2: Solo Picture of the Interviewee