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Professor Annexstein

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Anthony's Self-Assessment

Part A

My contributions to the project were a bit different than what I had expected at the start of the project. At the start, I felt that there would be more electrical engineering involved with the solar panels, but then we found out that there was an environmental team that would work on implementing the solar panels. That meant my focus shifted towards the computer engineering side of the project with programming the microcontroller and sensors. At the start of this semester, I thought that's what the bulk of my work would be done, but as the semester went along, it was apparent that Rose and Keith were better suited for programming the sensors and they were the ones to take over that task. My contributions to that task were researching the microcontroller and sensors to make sure they were compatible with each other, and researching different bug fixes and codes for the sensors to help Rose and Keith when they were programming. I believe that my main contribution to the project was being the team lead and all the responsibilities that go along with it. I would make deadlines for the team and made sure that we were able to meet them, I would schedule meetings for the team and different members of the group as needed, I would be the point of contact for our advisors and send them an update document and a Gantt chart every week detailing our progress on the project.

One of the skills that I feel like I built upon was programming. Even though I wasn't the one to usually program, I would learn from the codes that both the Computer Engineers made and the ones the Computer Science students made. Whether it was observing the code or working on fixing bugs, I feel like I learned a bit more when it comes to programming. I also developed my leadership and communication skills. Since I was the team leader, I needed to make sure to communicate with my team and our advisors in a timely manner, and I feel like I made improvements in both departments. A personal success for me was fulfilling the role as leader. Initially, I didn't think that I would have what it would take to be leader. I am confident in being a leader in different situations, but I felt that I wasn't the smartest person in the group, nor did I have the strongest handle on the project, so I wouldn't make a great leader. The team voted that I would be leader, so I put my doubts about myself aside and did my best to make

sure that our team was meeting deadlines and completing the project. An obstacle of mine was balancing the project with my other responsibilities. I had other classes and leadership positions in different student organizations, so I needed to make sure to manage my time well in order to fulfill my obligations to everything that I was a part of.

Part B

I believe our group accomplished what we originally imagined at the start of last semester. In my individual assessment from last semester, I said our project would be done once we had a fully functioning model with the sensors working and the app made along with it fully documented so a group after us can build upon our design. I believe that we accomplished this; we had our model at the expo and we are making sure it gets installed at the vineyard and we have the app working and catered for our client, and we made sure to document our work so a group can work on it after we graduate. With group work, I learned that goal setting is important to make sure we meet our deadlines and that it is important to communicate with your team and your leaders so everyone is involved, can contribute and can adjust when deliverables change.

I think our success was working together as a team and getting the project done. I am really happy with how it turned out and I feel like we succeeded in what we wanted to accomplish. There was a time halfway through this semester when things weren't looking the best for the project, and I feel like we got together and turned it around and it came together well. I believe one of our obstacles was getting a time to meet with everyone and having that be consistent. Since our group has 6 people, it was hard at times to get everyone together to touch base. Additionally, we all have different student organizations that we were a part of and had responsibilities for, work, and other classes to study for, so sometimes timing wasn't great. A more specific obstacle I felt like was programming the soil moisture sensor. That sensor had a clock pulse that we couldn't figure out and so we had to pivot to a different sensor in order to make sure we got the project done. I think my effort on the project compared to everyone else is about the same level of contribution. I made sure to show up to every meeting and hold myself and everyone else accountable. I feel like my contributions to the project were mostly when working in a team and in our meetings while other members of our group would like to work on different aspects of the project by themselves. I think a team member that deserves special recognition is Keith. He aways seemed to be on top of the project and knew what our next steps should be. He was heavily involved in developing the sensor network and he made sure that we were meeting our goals.