

A Report on Student Participation in Technical Clubs of NITK

Submitted to

Dean (Student Welfare)

National Institute of Technology Karnataka

Surathkal, Mangalore

Compiled by

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Dean (Student Welfare)
National Institute of Technology Karnataka
Surathkal, Mangalore

Dear Sir,

A REPORT ON STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN TECHNICAL CLUBS OF NITK

I

Introduction

With reference to your letter dated 20 March 2019, I, the Club Coordinator, am compiling a report on the student participation in technical clubs of NITK. The survey was commissioned to Fresher's Interest Group to look into the specifics of student participation. The survey was carried out keeping in mind the expectations of all relevant shareholders that are – Students, Club Members and Administration. The information that is pertinent to the discussion has been compiled here.

II

Procedure

Informal interviews and conversations were carried out through the stratum of stakeholders. In particular, talks with Mishal Shah, Organiser of RoR Bootcamp and Govind Jeevan, Organizer of ACM Web Dev FIG and Rishikesh, ACM were fruitful. The case studies are compiled by accounts of different participants.

Statistical information about student participation in ACM Web Dev F IG 2018 and RoR Bootcamp can be inferred through their repository.

III

Discussion

ACM Web Dev FIG 2018

ACM Web Dev FIG 2018 was conducted in Odd Semester of 2018-19 by ACM, to introduce the first years to different technologies in frontend development.

The workshops had the following pattern - The organizers would introduce new concepts and ideas in a lecture, using real-life code examples of work they did. After the workshop, students were given an assignment, to practice and demonstrate their skills.

The organization planned 10-12 sessions but could conduct only three. The organizers closed the program citing low student participation as the primary reason.

<%= render Scatter plot %>

From the figure, we can draw the following conclusions -

1. Student participation dropped sharply after the first assignment.
2. Students were submitting assignments after the deadline.

Ruby on Rails Bootcamp 2018

Ruby on Rails Bootcamp was conducted over winter break in 2018 by IRIS to get students involved in backend development.

The Bootcamp had the following structure – Organizers would go through topics in frequent online sessions, and at the end, the students were required to submit a minor project, showcasing their learning.

The Bootcamp began with 80-90 students enrolled. The first session had an attendance of 30-35 while the assignment could be finished only by 10 participants. The pie chart shows the different levels of participation.

An overwhelming majority of students did not interact with the organizers or learn, defeating the purpose of Bootcamp.

<%= render Pie Chart %>

From the case studies, we find the stakeholders faced the following difficulties -

Organizers were unable to get students to interact, submit tasks on time. Deadlines had to be extended, delaying the sessions. They were also disappointed in the quality of assignments and found it hard to justify their efforts.

Students were unable to follow along in both cases. The teaching methodologies were ineffective. They were also unable to sustain motivation over the duration. Lack of any feedback from organizers about the quality of their work discouraged their efforts.

IV

Recommendations

To begin with, I would like to commend all stakeholders in their efforts to make NITK a better learning environment with countless opportunities. I want to thank all organizers in particular, for their efforts despite a lack of recognition.

In light of the above discussion, we suggest the following recommendations (in no particular order of importance) -

1. Improving student participation by use of incentives such as peer review and feedback, rewards for satisfactory participation.
2. Use of better teaching methodologies with emphasis on following best practices.

3. Greater involvement within the organization, distributing workload more equitably among different members.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Abhishek Kumar (Mr)

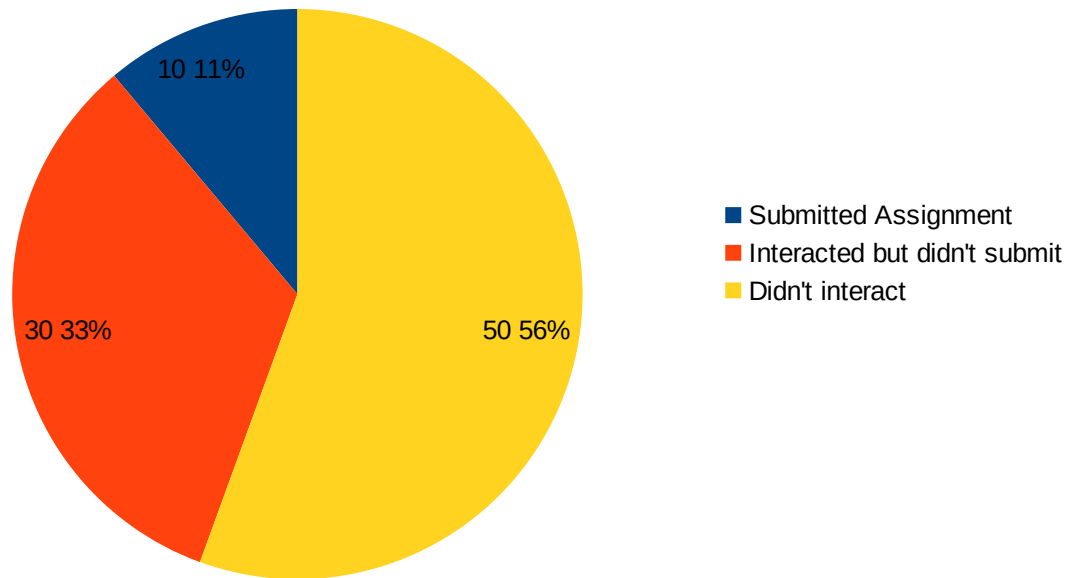
Club Coordinator

Sources

Github repository for ACM Web Dev FIG - <https://github.com/ACM-NITK/ACM-Web-Dev-FIG-2018>

Github repository for RoR Bootcamp - <https://github.com/IRIS-NITK/RoR-BootCamp-Submission>

Student Participation in RoR Bootcamp



Frequency and time of Submission

ACM Web Dev FIG 2018

