INDUSTRY TALK ON SKILLS FOR SUCCESS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

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1. Speaker's Experience

Nik Muhammad Habibullah bin Mohd Nizam, a graduate from the University of Technology Malaysia (UTM), delivered an engaging talk on valuable skills relevant to both academia and industry. Since graduating from UTM in 2005, he has accumulated extensive experience in graphics, IoTs (Internet of Things), and hardware development through co-founding companies like NI Solution and Mikro Semiconductor Sdn Bhd. Among his career highlights are the launch of a digital library at UTM, significant contributions to cloud-based systems during the 2020 lockdown, and the development of platforms such as GetMe Hired for career coaching. These achievements demonstrate how academic skills can be effectively translated into real-life applications.

2.Basic Skills Required for Computer Science

Mastering technical skills like programming languages (C++, Java, Python), understanding data structures and algorithms, and knowing software engineering principles (OOP, frameworks, Git) are essential for problem-solving and developing scalable applications. Analytical skills involve breaking down complex problems and finding efficient solutions. Clear communication and collaboration are vital for working in teams and presenting ideas to non-technical stakeholders.

3.Skills Required by the Industry

The industry needs employees who can quickly learn and adapt to new technologies, as demonstrated by Nik's work with cloud-based systems and various projects. Communication, potential for leadership, and teamwork are vital soft skills desired in today's work environments. Practical application of knowledge through internships, hackathons, or freelance jobs provides valuable experience that improves employability. Additionally, the tech industry prefers individuals with an entrepreneurial mindset who proactively create solutions rather than wait for problems to arise.

4. Individual Reflections on Career Success in Computer Science

Shimaa: Nik's talk inspired me to develop both technical and professional skills. As a computer student, I will focus on mastering programming, machine learning, AI, and tools like Git. I'll gain practical experience through internships and projects, staying flexible with industry trends like software development and cybersecurity. Additionally, I'll improve my communication, teamwork, and leadership skills, and seek mentorship to guide my career.

5.Reference

https://www.nu.edu/blog/computer-science-skills/
https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/1352135.1352218 by Andrew Begel