2.0 Background Study

Postgraduate supervision is vital in upholding the quality of research studies in Malaysia. Constructive supervision not only helps students in their academic studies, but also contributes to further advance our knowledge and skills. This project aims to investigate the current module of postgraduate supervision and improve the user experience for both parties to smoothen the process.

An interview is conducted with Dr Ahmad Najmi, a senior lecturer in UTM and a supervisor with 3 doctoral students supervised.

QUESTIONS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Can you describe a bit about work as a supervisor for postgraduate students ?
2. How long have you been a supervisor for postgraduate students and how many students have you supervised?
3. Can you tell us, in detail, your work day-to-day as a postgraduate students' supervisor ?
4. What are the objectives you hope to achieve through the implementation of the postgraduate supervision module?

CURRENT MANUAL PROCESS

5. What kind of technical challenges do you face day to day in the supervision of postgraduate students?
6. How hard is it for you to communicate to your students through the current module? Why?
7. On a scale of 1 to 5, how much does miscommunication affect your work flow in supervising the students? What are the subsequent outcomes of the miscommunication ?
8. What do you like about the current system that needs to be carried over to the next system?
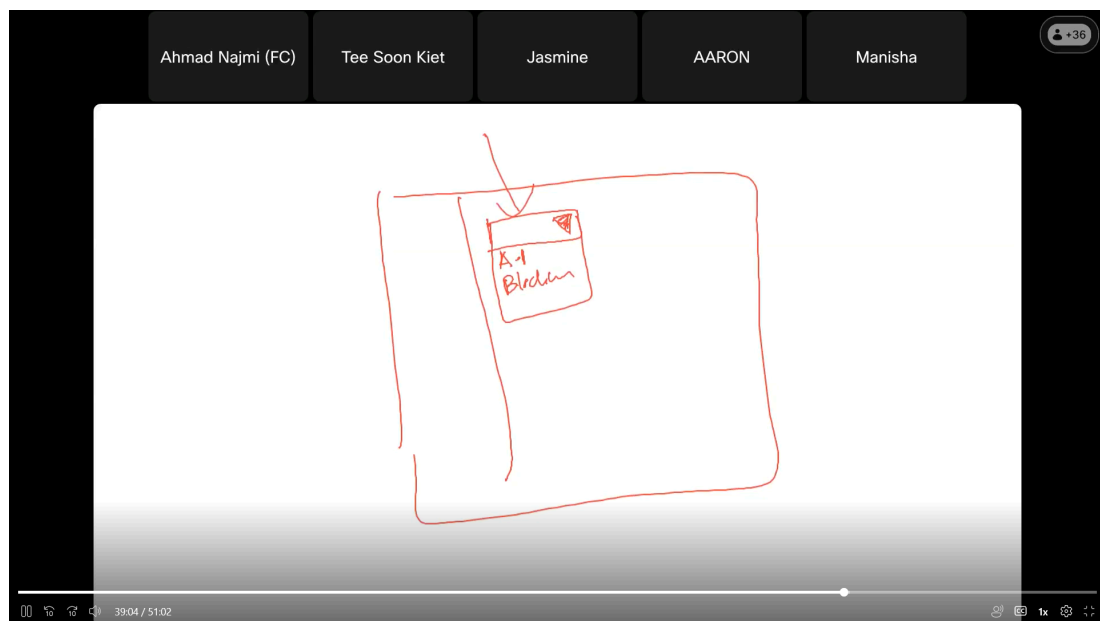
STAKEHOLDERS' NEEDS AND EXPECTATION

9. How do you wish for the current system to be improved?
10. What are the must-have features to be included in the system?
11. Through what means do you wish for the communication to be better with your students?
12. Which areas should be focused on to be improved for the new system?

DESIRED FEATURES AND FUNCTIONALITIES

13. How important is user-friendliness system when considering the design of the module?
14. What other systems or tools will the postgraduate supervision module need to integrate with?
15. How do you plan to ensure data security compliance with privacy regulations?
16. How should communication between supervisors, students, and others be facilitated within the module?

TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

17. By whom and through what means will the module be maintained coming forth?
18. Is there a time period that should be completed?
19. If they want to make the module, is there any budget for the module to be created?
20. Through which means will the project be financed?
21. About the quality module, how high is the hope to get the best module?

Picture above shows the interview session with Dr. Ahmad Najmi.