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Software Engineering Intern: Webmaster at Design Everest

This summer, I did an internship at Design Everest as Webmaster. I’d like to revisit Week 5’s Teamwork theme. The way my project team is structured is there is one more web developer working with me, and I have a mentor. However, during the course of my internship, the project team changed. More developers joined later, for a short period of time, as there were many improvements needed to be done, toward the end when the website got launched. Furthermore, I started interacting with a lot of the marketing interns, as well as others, in order to get feedback about how to improve the website. I would say that all the interactions have been positive as others were providing me constructive feedback, and there was no negativity in the suggestions. Many of them gave long lists of feedback, and the experience was positive. Additionally, working with the other developers has been a positive experience as well. I could ask them for help, if I needed it. Thus, examples of effective interactions between team members can be asking for feedback and asking for help. What makes it effective is the positivity that underlies them, and also serves for my technical growth. During the following academic year, I would like to address the following question: “What are examples of particular effective interactions between team members?” I will be taking some group project courses, so I will keep this question in the back of my mind.

Another theme I’d like to visit is, Week 4’s Communication theme. The main mode of method at the company I work at, is email. The advantage of this is I never forget what I have to do— for example, there are tasks that my mentor sent me via email, or there can be long lists of feedback that others send me. I can always go back to the email and re-read them if I forget something. A disadvantage of mainly using email is that I don’t get to practice oral communication too much, so I haven’t really experienced being put on the spot in this internship. Communicating over email has increased as the internship has progressed, so my experience has deepened. Over the course of the internship, I feel more strongly about communicating via email because I can keep track of everything that I have to do, as opposed to talking about what I have to do, and forgetting part of it. An aspect of communication I would like to work on, is oral communication. I will obtain more experience with this in future group project courses and jobs.

One goal that I have is to take web development courses at UCSD. I would like to learn more about web technologies, dynamic web applications, and SQL.