# Summary Report (12/11/2014)

## Goals for the Spring 2015

### Goals for papers

1. Leadership Paper (“Exploring Reasons of Team Success from Multi-party Dialogues”)

I’m planning to rewrite the paper and submit it to NAACL-SRW (student research workshop) or the BEA workshop. Both of them are due on 02/25/2015.

2. DSTC paper

Although the DSTC paper was presented as poster, it was not included in the proceeding. Therefore, I think we can still submit it. I’m planning to polish the paper a little bit and submit it to SigDial 2015 (Due: 03/15/2015)

3. New paper about Quality Prediction

I’m want to run some experiment to predict the feedback quality (muddiest point) in the student reflection data. The basic idea is based on the idea of “[speciteller](http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~nlp/software/speciteller.html)” (based on the tool introduced by Ani).

If it has a good result, we may have a chance to submit a short paper to AIED (due on 01/20/2015).

### Goals for projects

For next semester, both of the projects (Summarization & Team Entrainment) are in the stage of collecting data. Therefore, there are not many experiments to do. My job is to help them to collect data (I assume that won’t take me a lot of time).

For the project of summarization, I’m planning to try abstract summarization recommended by Fei Liu. In particular, I’m trying to the technique introduced by Ganesan et al. (2010). Actually, Fei Liu is also interested in this project and we will have a bi-weekly meeting about it.

## Internship Plan

I’m planning to do a summer internship. Now, I have applied several companies, including Google, Yahoo Research Lab, IBM Research.

I just passed the first round of interview from Google.

In addition, Bosch has already given me an offer. However, I want to try a different company since I went to Bosch last year.

## Lessons learned from this semester

I learned a lot during this semesters.

### Good lessons I learned

* Communication

I don’t think I am good at communication with people. This is an important skill that I always want to improve.

And now, I realize that communication is very important.

First, during the last two years, I prefer to work with the door closed (I thought it was efficient). However, now, I always keep the door open when I am working. I do get more interruption, but I also get more ideas and understand more about the work I’m doing. This is valuable.

Second, it is good to talk with any invited speaker. Previous, I prefer to talk with an invited speaker in a group meeting. However, now, I prefer to have a talk individually because 15 min is not enough. In addition, preparing some slides is good to introduce your problem in a short time. Moreover, having a lunch with the speaker offers a second chance to talk.

Third, attending a conference is the key to build connections and know the field.

* Paper reading and management

Reading papers every week is really helpful to build the vocabulary in my domain. It is a necessary step to know the existing techniques for my problem.

And managing the paper by Mendeley is useful when writing a paper (It is fast to locate a paper with some keywords).

* Writing a paper

First, a good paper should have a good and short story. If you cannot tell the story, it is hard to write a good paper.

Second, when writing a paper, prepare a statement and evidences first with just some bulletins instead of writing full sentences. It is helpful to a good structure.

Finally, proof-reading is really important. Find as many people as possible to proof read the paper before submitting is really helping. In advance, think about every comment given by the readers carefully and address it.

### Bad lessons

* I believe I did a good job to contribute myself to our group: providing suggesting during the presentation, reviewing the papers carefully, discussing the projects in the office, etc. However, I think I made two mistakes that I cannot forgive me during the last semester.

First, I missed our first individual meeting because I submit the summary report late. (Fortunately, it never happened again.)

Second, I missed Mike’s thesis defense. This is a mistake that really bothered me. I should not because the department has sent the notification twice and I also saw the advertisement on the LCD screen once but I didn’t mark it on my calendar. I said sorry to Mike in person.

# Reference

Kavita Ganesan, ChengXiang Zhai, and Jiawei Han. 2010. Opinosis: a graph-based approach to abstractive summarization of highly redundant opinions. In *Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Computational Linguistics* (COLING '10). Association for Computational Linguistics, Stroudsburg, PA, USA, 340-348.