

Improving the Learning Experience

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ABSTRACT

The poster conveys the work experience highlighted through an internship/project initiated by Dennis Ng. A Bachelor of Business Studies (BBS) and Bachelor of Computing Systems (BCS) concurrent student at Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) Hawke's Bay, the undertaking was part of Dennis' BCS studies. Placement was based in Gisborne at EIT Tairāwhiti as Dennis worked under the role of system analyst for the project, and Information Technology (IT) technical support personnel for the internship.

The poster illustrates an overview of the internship/project and process taken. The combination of academic and 'real-world' experience emphasises the work ethic utilised in an industry role and working environment.

The Sponsor, Scott Casley, initiated a project request to highlight the possibility of streamlining of the Academic Results Process at EIT. Firstly, this encompassed analysing the integration feasibility between the learning and training resource system, EIT Online (Moodle™), and the assessments and results management system, Cobek® aPlus+. The objective was system interoperability. Secondly, survey Lecturers and Students gathering data about users' perception about the academic results process, accenting online aspects. All activities aligned with improving the Student Learning Experience. An internship aspect was incorporated for the provision of technical and practical support for general and e-learning purposes.

The Framework for the Application of Systems Thinking (FAST) Methodology was used for project conduct. The On Demand Support Model was used for internship engagements. This is displayed within the poster.

Keywords

Capstone project, assessment results.

1. INTRODUCTION

The internship/project is credited under the final semester BCS course that all final year BCS students undergo. Equivalent to three effective fulltime courses, the internship/project is designed to demonstrate the student's skill and learning in an industry role.

The poster visually highlights the approach and solution taken, allowing a clear pictorial overview of the internship/project and process. This conveys a summary of Dennis' main work, integrating study based academia to a working industry environment

2. Student Work-Integrated Learning

The poster provides an overview of the major tasks undertaken and accomplished. The overlay of technical learning with industry experience has provided the basis to achieve acceptable and suitable outcomes for the organisation and Sponsor.

The Student's work engagement involved systems analysis into Moodle™ – Cobek® aPlus+ integration feasibility, and surveying system users regarding the Academic Results Process at EIT. Report development was emphasised for the Sponsor to provide the evidence for initiating action. Dennis was also responsible on multiple occasions for technical support for Lecturers and Students regarding general IT and video conferencing issues, and user training.

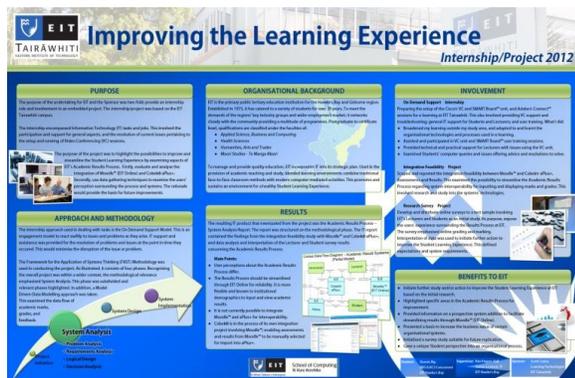
3. Results

The Student concluded the internship/project to a high degree of professionalism. The resulting IT product exceeded the quality expectations of the Sponsor, who was adamant in examining ways to improve the Learning Experience. The report was passed to the appropriate organisational manager for evaluation.

Dennis' manner of professionalism and preparation through tertiary education allowed him to excel in the internship role and project. The Student now prepares for Industry Based Learning (IBL) in Accounting for the BBS to finish all tertiary requirements.

4. Conclusion

The work experience attained further contributed to the professional development of the Student. Both a personal and organisational success, the experience was well received. The internship/project provided an insight into a possible career path given Dennis' BBS and BCS studies. The application of the variety and thorough academic range contributed to the security of achieving a suitable result for the Client. This can be carried forward into further undertakings.



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